

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN PROVIDED AS A TOOL FOR THAT.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

We know that God is on the move, and we've seen in Part 1 of "Moving Day" that moving with Him keeps us from settling. But a curious meeting between the King of kings and an outcast at a well in enemy territory reveals why God moves us: He moves people to people. All Christ followers are called to a life on the move, and here are 4 things we learn about what that life looks like:

1. **Following God means risking reputation:** The Bible says that Jesus had to go through Samaria, but he didn't really HAVE to; lots of Jews in His day avoided Samaria during their travels. But Jesus knew that He had a mission, and that mission was what drove Him into Samaria even though He knew it would further jeopardize His reputation.
2. **God moves us to places in order to get us to people:** Yes, Jesus had to go to a well in Samaria (a place), but it was all because He had to meet a woman who was in that place. People matter to God, and He moves people to places where they can meet people who need the gospel. The people we meet on the way are never in the way!
3. **God moves us past our past and gives us purpose:** This woman that Jesus met had a past; in fact, it was so broken that she came to the well at the wrong time so she could avoid others. But when she encountered the life-giving message of Jesus, she left her water pot and went to find people (see, God moves people to people!). She left her past and ran toward her purpose!
4. **Sometimes carrying the message creates a mess:** Please don't miss this: the very message that Jesus came to preach is the reason God led Him into a messy situation. He was tired, He was questioned, but ultimately, He was Lord among some pretty messy people. As leaders at The Gathering, we have the honor of serving the body as the body carries the message into the messes where God leads them! This week, we demonstrated that by washing the beautiful feet of those who are carrying good news to the messy world around us!

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What takeaway – if any – did you have from the message this week?
- What places were you told to avoid when you were growing up? What would have happened if you had gone to those places?
- How did Jesus risk His reputation by asking the woman for water? What are some things that might seem risky to us as God moves us to people?
- Read Psalm 37:23 and discuss how God leads us to places in order to get us to people. Where has He led you and to whom has He led you in that place? How important is it to trust Him in this?
- How has God moved you past your past? What "water jars" have you left behind for the purpose of taking the gospel to people?
- Obviously, we can get a little messy as we carry the message, and the foot washing was a great visual of how leaders can serve the body as we carry out the mission. According to Ephesians 5:26, what else can help us "wash" as we take the gospel to others?