



## Made For Greatness

### WEEK 1 DISCUSSION GUIDE

#### OVERVIEW

In this message of the new series entitled, *Difference Maker*, we will learn how God's Word defines *greatness*. Our nature is fallen apart from Christ, but every human being is still made in the image of God and is filled with the potential to do great things. We live in a critical time in our nation and world, and every area of our society is in need of biblical leadership and difference makers.

#### DISCUSSION

There's something within all of us that longs to find significance, meaning, and purpose in life. God designed and made us for greatness. However, we must be clear on the expectations and what true greatness actually means. Of course, God is the epitome of greatness. But, we are also made in the image, likeness, and dominion of God and are called to become more like Christ each day. He has designed us to do great things and be difference makers.

Greatness—from God's perspective—is defined by how you help and add value to people.

- Who is someone in your life that you would describe as great? What makes him/her stand out in your mind?
- Who are some people that the world considers great? Do they always embody biblical values?
- How would you define a Difference Maker? Do the differences made need to always be big and famous to be significant?

#### Five Thoughts on Greatness:

1. Greatness is not an event; it's forged throughout life.  
There's never one moment that makes someone a difference maker. Instead, there are many moments all throughout their life. By showing up each day and consistently adding value to others, our lives can be marked with greatness.
  - Why is consistency a key part of greatness?
2. Greatness is not something you proclaim about yourself.  
**Proverbs 27:2: Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.** When we live a life that honors God and reflects His glory, it will be apparent to those around us. We must never allow the joy and gratitude that comes from

God using us to accomplish His will to become pride that only serves the ego.

- How can we practically express our gratitude to God without stealing any of the credit for His work?

3. Greatness is not a race against anyone else.

**Luke 9:46: And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a little child and said, "Whoever receives this little child in My name receives Me; whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. For he who is least among you is the greatest."**

Greatness and humility go hand-in-hand. By putting ourselves last and lowering ourselves to that of a child, we can open our hearts to the true greatness only the Lord can provide. We must set aside our desire to be 'the best' or above our brothers and sisters.

- When do you compare yourself to others? Why do you think this is harmful?

4. Greatness is all-encompassing.

**Proverbs 11:3: The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.** Greatness is not simply winning the battles that everyone sees; it is about the heart. Greatness is about your character and your integrity. The victories behind closed doors are the ones that grow our faith the most.

- Why is it important to maintain our character and values, even when no one sees?

5. Fame and greatness are not synonymous.

**Matthew 6:19-21: "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."** In secular culture, these two are often lumped together. Someone who is famous is considered 'great' by the masses. Your care for others and your positive contribution to society are the true measures of greatness—not empty achievements or titles that fade with this life.

- Why do you think the world puts so much value on fame as opposed to the true greatness that is described above?

## LIFE CHALLENGE

Denying the desire to be great by the world's standards isn't easy. Secular culture promotes self-made men and women who don't need God or anyone else around them. It promotes putting your riches and careers above everything else. This week, ask the Lord to reveal areas in your life where you are trying to meet up to the world's standards of greatness instead of His. Evaluate the areas where you are not content and compare yourself to others. Write down what God speaks to you, and share it with the group at the next meeting.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER