

NS LIFE GROUPS

NorthStar Church

Defining Moments: Jesus

Mark 1:9-13

Apr. 7 & Apr. 8, 2018

Main Idea

God uses defining moments in our lives to shape us. These are the moments that God weaves together to write the stories of our lives.

Study

Can anyone in your group tell of a time that they experienced a defining moment in their life?

How can we know when we are in a defining moment from God? Scott, in his sermon, gave us a list of 5 characteristics that can help identify a defining moment from God. Read through these 5 points in your group along with the corresponding scripture and discuss.

1. We feel compelled to leave the safety of what we know to do the unknown. (v. 9a) Have you ever left the safety of your comfort zone to go somewhere uncomfortable or to do something difficult for the glory of God?
2. Our decisions are driven by faith and rather than logic. (v. 9b) Have you ever made a decision based entirely on faith that may not have made logical sense to you at the time?
3. Our choices are about pleasing God, not ourselves. (vs. 10-11) Have you made a choice that was only to please God and actually went against what you really wanted to do?
4. Our life often gets harder because we're doing the right thing. (vs.12-13a) Why would our lives sometimes actually get harder when we do the right thing and obeying God?
5. We clearly see God's hand of protection over us. (v. 13b) How have you specifically seen God's protection over you when you've been in hard situations as a result of bold obedience?

When we are in what appears to be a defining moment from God, we need to be sure we are asking the right questions of Him. We shouldn't be asking **WHY**. We should be asking **WHAT** and **HOW**.

1. **WHAT** do You want me to learn, know, experience, change, or do in me?
2. **HOW** do You want me to grow, serve, trust, lead, or love?

What are some of the most impactful ways your faith has been shaped by defining moments in your life?

Prayer

Pray for each other in your group and their various requests. Pray for each other that God would continue to shape each of us into the men and women that he wants us to be and that we would understand how he wants us to grow through the defining moments in our lives.