



# GOING DEEPER

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

August 14, 2016

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## Discussion Guide

### Be the Revolution

#### CONNECTING:

45 MINUTES

(THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE YOUR GROUP WITH A WAY OF CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER SO THAT YOU MIGHT PARTNER IN THE WORK GOD IS DOING IN YOUR LIVES.)

- In what ways did God move in your life this week? In what ways did you respond to him?
- What was your biggest challenge this week? In what ways, if any, did you invite God into this challenge?
- How honest have you been with us? (Graciously thank group members for their honesty if they state they have held back.)

#### JESUS' GOOD NEWS

*MARK 1.14-15*

In this passage, Jesus is going around and proclaiming that an important time has come, that the Kingdom of heaven is near. Jesus not only proclaims this, but he invites people to trade in their allegiance and live a different way. This is not limited to a “spiritual” part of life. This is an invitation for a whole-life transformation.

When you read/heard the good news from Jesus in this passage, how treasonous of a call did you think it was?

To what extent have you heard it calling you to switch your allegiance to a new government/authority?

What do you experience when you read this passage and take note of its political message?

## A REVOLUTIONARY LIFE

### *PHILIPPIANS 3.7-11*

In this passage Paul is expressing the change he has experienced since following Christ. He no longer sees his previous accolades and accomplishments of being of any value. He also sees all other things that could naturally be viewed as beneficial, as being something negative when they function to hinder him from knowing Christ. Paul is telling us about a revolutionary life, which values Christ and how he lived in the kingdom while on earth above all other allegiances.

Take a moment to consider the things that you pursue for a sense of value, safety, comfort, and love.

To what extent are you trying to figure out how to live rightly on your own?

To what extent are you placing the direction and details of your life before Jesus, and seeking to obey his direction...living under his authority?

What allegiances or pursuits do you find unmotivated or difficult to count as loss apart from knowing Christ?

## TRUSTING THE ONE IN CONTROL

### *PHILIPPIANS 3.17-21*

Paul, as a citizen of heaven, is pressing on towards the prize of a life under God's authority, which will bring transformation socially, personally, and physically. It is a life which trusts the one who is in control, using all things to bring about his rule and reign. Paul also describes that living as an enemy of Christ looks like: having our desires and appetites as our guiding authority, being known and praised for the desires and appetites we pursue which lead to brokenness and incompleteness, and having our attention

and allegiance upon the control, acclaim, comforts, or fears promoted here on earth.

To what extent are you currently trusting Jesus to bring all things under his control?

How does your own appetite and desire for safety, comfort, or wealth guide you to engage and trust in the American government that God is undermining with his own?

What might the Holy Spirit be inviting you to turn your attention and allegiance from, and follow Him?

## Being the revolution

### *PHILIPPIANS 4.1-3*

Paul comes finishes this pursuit and trust in Christ with a specific example of what it looks like to live as a revolutionary citizen of heaven. It looks like people personally and specifically displaying love and unity in the face of differences. It looks like personal involvement in a revolution that brings reconciliation. It looks like significant actions that bring someone an experience of love. It looks like picking up the life of Christ, to be a go-between, and ambassador, between Jesus and others so that they might experience his love and be invited to participate in a new government.

Who might you be harboring unforgiveness or resentment towards? Do you see this as harboring enemies of God's kingdom in your life?

What do you value more – having a right opinion, or seeking the good of someone with a different thought? What does Jesus and his kingdom value more?



PASTOR  
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