Digging Deeper

the church at **Severn Run**

More Than You Can Imagine

Week of October 1, 2017

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap: Read Ephesians 3:20-21 Guest Speaker: Michael Catt

Our lives in Christ are only limited by the source of our faith. Do you believe in a big God who is able to do more than you could ask or imagine, or are you being limited by your expectations? When we define God by our expectations, we are living in spiritual poverty. But God calls us to higher expectations. Every promise of God should lead to great expectations and bold living. We can pray big bold prayers when we remember that every prayer, prayed in the name of Jesus and aligned with the will of the Father is heard by God. Instead of thinking of God according to your expectations, think according to God's ability. God makes himself available to those who make themselves available to him. God is able, are you willing?

Pray

Father, forgive us for thinking about you according to our expectations. Help us believe big. Create in us an attitude of availability. Help us understand how much of you we can know from your Word through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us glorify you in our words, our actions,our service, and in our faith that you are able to do more than we could ever ask or imagine.

Getting Started

- What is your favorite quote or meme?
- When was the last time you prayed a big prayer and had it answered? Were you surprised when God answered it?

Digging Deeper

- 1. Have you ever doubted that God could use you? How do you overcome that kind of thinking?
- 2. When you pray, or read the Bible, or go to church, what are you expecting? Do you hear God's voice, or are you limited by your own expectations? How is limiting God like living in spiritual poverty?
- 3. Explain these statements and describe how they might embolden your faith:
 - 1. Every promise of God should lead to high expectations.
 - 2. Every command from God is backed by power.
 - 3. Expectation is faith breathing.
- 4. *Prayer is the secret weapon of the Kingdom of God.* What are the implications of this statement? How can you pray more? How can you pray more boldly?
- 5. Read John 14:12-16. What was the source of Jesus' power? Do you have the same access to that power? (How do you know?) What are you doing with that power?
- 6. Talk about the things God is capable of doing by sharing verses from the Bible or examples from your life. How does knowing this help?
- 7. What is a Believing Big Prayer that you are praying? Take some time to pray for these aloud with your group.

Living Jesus

God wants us to ask for big things and to stretch ourselves in what we pray and how we believe God for it. God wants us to be available, to read his Word, and to be in prayer. This is the basics of living Jesus. How are you doing with this?

Your Story

The Bible is filled with stories of frail people who took God at his word and did incredible things that glorified the Father. When have you taken God at his word? What incredible things happened that glorified God?

We'd like to hear your believing big story. Please post on social media and tag us, or use #BelievingBigatSR. You can also contact us <u>here</u> with your story using #MyStory as the subject line. Thanks!