



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 Mark 1:1

No Matter how big the bad is in life, there is good news that is better. Jesus, God's Son, came to make our life extraordinary. Jesus came to bring a new beginning to each of us (see John 3:3). He stays with us when we need our beginning to begin again (see Philippians 1:6). We often feel and think we are inadequate; but we should not let our feelings dictate our thoughts. Even in feeling broken, we have hope in Jesus. Face those feelings but do not live by them. The good news is the surprising extraordinary life of Jesus. The good news is that each of us is loved and wanted, each of us is perfectly blessed. Our debt is sin and Jesus bought back our sin at the cross leading us to redemption. Through faith we are forgiven and through love we can be changed.

Pray

Dear Jesus, your coming to earth as God's son is surprising and extraordinary. Thank you for bringing us a new beginnings. Help us overcome any fears and negative thoughts with which we may be struggling. Help us to be willing to take on the extraordinary life and good works you have started in us. Amen

Getting Started

- Share an event or action that has surprised you in your life.
- Tell about someone you know that has lived or is living an extraordinary life. What has or is making their life extraordinary?

Digging Deeper

1. Why are new beginnings so important?
2. Read Philippians 1:6. Share your experience with beginning again. In what way are you confident that the good work started in you will carry on to completion?
3. What is it about Jesus that is surprising as well as extraordinary? What words describe for you your thoughts on Jesus being God's son?
4. Describe things someone would do when they don't feel known, wanted, perfectly loved and forever blessed?
5. It has been said that we are living with sin in us. Agree or disagree? Why or why not?
6. Read John 3:16. Put in your own words the good news of the Gospel. How does this help you know that your sins have been defeated and can be forgiven? (Also see Ephesians 1:7)
7. What does a new beginning look like for you this week?

Living Jesus

Have you been and are you today stunned and surprised by the story of Jesus? You need to be to live an extraordinary life changed by love. No matter how you feel inside, Jesus will never leave you alone or abandon you. Through having faith in Christ you can choose to be changed. If you are struggling with fear, anger, resentment or any sin, you can ask God to keep you from continuing to be stuck. Instead ask him to move you forward in the extraordinary life He has planned for you.

What's Your Story?

In what ways do you live the extraordinary life that God has promised you?

>> Go to SevernRunner.info and choose the Stories tile. Then follow the link provided to share your own story; we will even connect you with a writer to help you.