

So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open, drinking in your strength and glory. Psalm 63:2 (MSG)

Worship positions us to receive the <u>strength</u> from God we need.

Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer. Psalm 63:3-4

• Worship sets our <u>affection</u> on God, and He, in turn, gives us strength we need. I love you, LORD; you are my strength. Psalm 18:1 (NLT)

### song: Graves into Gardens

### What we discover about satisfaction is:

- We don't find lasting satisfaction in **people**.
- We don't find lasting satisfaction in pleasure.
- We don't find lasting satisfaction in <u>performance</u>.
- We don't find lasting satisfaction in possessions.

Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer. You satisfy me more than the richest feast. I will praise you with songs of joy. Psalm 63:3-5 (NLT)

• The only one that can satisfy the human **heart** is the one that **made** it.

You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. Psalm 145:6

Only when God satisfies our life can we have a healthy relationship with the things in life.

• We live **from** God's love and not **for** the love of people.

Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Ephesians 1:4 (MSG)

May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself. Ephesians 3:17-19

### When we pursue God...:

...we stop wasting our time with imitations.

The Lord says, "All you who are thirsty, come and drink. Those of you who do not have money, come, buy and eat! Come buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend your money on something that is not real food? Why work for something that doesn't really satisfy you? Listen closely to me, and you will eat what is good; your soul will enjoy the rich food that satisfies. Isaiah 55:1-2

For God satisfies the longing soul,... Psalm 107:9

• ... we start experiencing the **transforming** power of God.

We'll never be satisfied with God until our heart fully belongs to God.

If you grasp and cling to life on your terms (if you're keeping your options open, if God is just one of the pursuits in your life), you'll lose it, but if you let that life go, you'll get life on God's terms. Luke 17:33 (MSG)

I was carried away by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley filled with bones. He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out. Then he asked me, "Son of man, can these bones become living people again?" Ezekiel 37:1-3

"O Sovereign Lord," I replied, "you alone know the answer to that." Ezekiel 37:3b

Then he said to me, "Speak to these bones and say, 'Dry bones, listen to the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord." So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. Then as I watched, muscles and flesh formed over the bones. Then skin formed to cover their bodies... Ezekiel 37:4-8 Then he told me what the vision meant: "These bones," he said, "represent all the people of Israel. They say: 'We have become a heap of dried-out bones—all hope is gone.'Ezekiel 37:11 (through vs.14)

#### Life on God's terms:

• There is nothing that is **impossible** for God.

Jesus said, ...with God all things are possible. Matthew 19:26

Action step: Ask God for the impossible.

God wants us to live with <u>Hope</u>.

Action Step: Believe that God cares for you.

• God always has a plan for us.

Action Step: Do what God tells you to do.

See, I am doing a <u>new thing!</u> Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a <u>way in the desert</u> and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19



# TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

### Ouestions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Why?
- Talk about the areas that we tend to look for satisfaction in life from. Why don't these areas provide the lasting satisfaction we need?
- Why is God the only one that can satisfy our lives?
- In your own words, what does it mean to live from God's love and not for the love of people?
- When we pursue God why do we stop wasting our time with imitations? (Things we think will complete us) What are some of these imitations?
- In your own words, what does it mean that we'll never be satisfied with God until our heart fully belongs to God?
- Read Ezekiel 37 1-14; If God gave you that vision and asked you the same question, how would you have answered? How does our natural perception affect our faith in what God can do in our lives?
- Do you struggle with believing that God can do the impossible in your circumstances?
- Why do you think God wants us to live with hope? Do you anticipate God's care and activity in your circumstances?
- God's plan required Ezekiel's participation and obedience; Why does God's plan for our lives require an obedience from us?

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## **Coming Up:**





If you serve in our children's or student ministries, or if you plan to, please be with us on Oct. 15th so you can be fingerprinted and have a background check done. All children's and youth volunteers MUST have a live scan background check to serve our kid's at The Quest..

> Saturday, Oct. 15th 9am here at The Quest







Today's Talk..



# "Graves into Gardens"

Sunday, October 2nd, 2022