Week #4: Now what? September 29- October 4, 2024



Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



Series: Living on Purpose

Trying to discover the purpose of our lives can lead to a lot of questions. Who am I? Why am I here? What does living with purpose look like? Often, the world is all too ready to give us answers – promising that finding the perfect job or achieving the next milestone will make us happy. But in this series, we will embrace the questions as an invitation to discover what it is that God wants to do with the story of our lives.

Message Description:

As children of God, we have been called to share our gifts to be a light in the world. We have been entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation, to meet the world's deepest hurts and needs with the mercy, hope, and love of Jesus. But how do we do that exactly? Now what?

The local church is the primary place where disciples are made, and transformation happens. We gather as a church family to offer what we have, our prayers, presence, gifts service, and witness, because we believe that it is through the local church that we might fulfill the mission of Jesus to be a light in the world. We need each other. It is not just up to one of us, but all of us, together. We see this in the story of Jesus feeding the 5000 in the gospel of John where the generosity of one boy inspired others to offer what they had. Jesus took what was offered, blessed, and multiplied it, so that all were fed. **The miracle was in the sharing.**

What is God calling you to share today?

Key Scripture: John 6: 1-15

Questions based on this week's teaching:

- 1. What gifts do you believe God has given you? If you took the spiritual gifts inventory during this series, what gifts did you discover? Or what results surprised you?
 - (If you haven't taken it yet, please do! https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en)
- 2. Rachel shared several ways to get connected to our church family, challenging us to choose at least one place to grow and one place to serve. Consider the weekly rhythm of your life. What are you missing? What do you want more of?
- 3. Where can your schedule better align with the rhythm of our church life together (in terms of sharing your presence, prayers, gifts, service, and witness)?
- 4. Rachel shared several opportunities to serve and needs within our church. What is God calling you to share right now?