

Sermon Based Small Group Guide

October 28, 2018 sermon:

Parables: "When the dream becomes a nightmare"

Warm up: (15-20 minutes)

Questions for discussion:

- 1.) You discover it's true...old lamps have a genie in them! You are granted ONE wish, and I know, you wish for "world peace"! Now back to reality. You are granted ONE wish...what do you wish for? Different house? Greater income? More/better relationships? Change in health?
- 2.) Jesus has talked a lot about using the "temporary" to prepare for the "eternal". Which parable so far (this was the 11th) has had the greatest impact on you?

Digging deeper: (20-30 minutes)

1. Keeping our priorities in line, and having the right perspective on success and work can be no small challenge. How do the following verses help us build upon what we heard this weekend on how to keep our dreams from becoming a nightmare?
Proverbs 21:5 Proverbs 22:1 Proverbs 23:4-5 Jeremiah 9:23-24

2. Most of us have felt like we don't have what it takes to make a change in our priorities at work or at home, even though we sense God calling us to change them. How might 2 Peter 1:3-9 help us work through this?

3. One way the dream becomes a nightmare is when we lose sight of our daily life being an "assignment from God" where we have an opportunity to represent God to those around us through our character, the quality of our work, and the attitude we maintain. Colossians 3:17 gives a great overview of how we should approach our work. After reading the verse, assess how you're doing in your job in the areas below. Rate yourself on a 1 to 5 scale (5 being the highest).

Focus Teamwork Flexibility Follow-through Attention to detail Honesty

Looking at how you rated yourself, are there any areas you would like to improve on?

Application: (5-10 minutes) One of the goals of Life Groups is having deepening relationships with other Christians that will love you, challenge and encourage you to be all you can be for Christ...but that requires growing honesty and transparency. So...a tough question: If you were to stand before Jesus today and have him evaluate your life, what would HE say had been the most important things to you?