

2024 SPRING CONNECT GROUPS
'GET REAL' WEEK 4: REAL PEOPLE ARE ORDINARY
Week of April 28-May 4th

Introduction: The big idea: "Real people are ordinary, but God uses ordinary people."

Summary: In this world, people look at for the 'best and brightest' to be the most successful. We choose the best, the most popular, the most qualified, the most gifted, the most worthy to hold the highest positions. If we have to be all of that for the world, you would think we would have to be *even better* for God! For this reason most of us feel 'UN' – unsung, unqualified, and unworthy. In this message we looked how God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Our three main points are:

- 1. Unsung people are called by God.**
- 2. Unworthy people are made worthy by Jesus.**
- 3. Unqualified people are gifted to fulfill their purpose.**

In this message we looked at principles such as:

- You don't have to be a 'super Christian' to be used by God.
- Moses had a speech problem, Abraham and Sarah were too old, Jeremiah and Timothy were too young, David's father didn't believe in him, Paul had a bad past, the disciples had no education, the woman at the well was divorced multiple times etc. but God used all of them.
- God calls us according to his purpose, not according to our worthiness.
- "God does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called".
- You are perfectly gifted and equipped to do what God has called you to do.
- The most important quality in order to be used by God is 'willingness'.
- God puts gifts in us, not to lie dormant, but to be used. Don't let fear get in the way!

Scriptures to Explore:

- 1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29**
- 2. 2 Timothy 1:9**
- 3. Romans 12:6-8**

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a time in your life when you felt inadequate or unqualified for a position or task. How did it turn out?
2. In our message we talked about different 'unqualified' people in the Bible that God used, how does it make you feel that God would use these unlikely people, and to which of the Bible characters can you relate to the most?
3. How does 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 challenge societal norms that only the 'best and brightest' can be used? Why does Paul say that God chose people like the Corinthians to use and work through?
4. How does the truth of 2 Timothy 1:9, that 'God calls us not according to our works, but according to his purpose and grace' give you assurance in being used by God? In what other ways does the Gospel (the good news) give us confidence before God?
5. Discuss the different gifts listed in Romans 12:6-8. What other gifts and talents can you think of that can be used by God in our lives? How does using our gifts relate to Romans 12:1?

Personal Application: List some ways that you can be more sensitive to your gifts and to how God wants to use you in ordinary situations to make a difference in people's lives?

Prayer