

Vision Fall 2018 Part 1: Reach Up

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **Reach Up**

- A real relationship with the Living God is available to you.
- I asked Pastor Corey, “What do people most need in this area?”
 - He said, “A tangible experience with God.”
- You may have been blessed with various experiences with God. Maybe you are walking by faith not by sight.

- Today we look at 3 examples from the Bible of experiences with God.

- **Samuel**

- A little about Samuel.
 - His mom was a believer who couldn't get pregnant.
 - She prayed, the priest prayed, and God answered with Samuel.
 - Samuel was dedicated to the Lord and served in the Temple.
- **1 Samuel 3:1-20**
- Thoughts about Samuel's relationship with God:
 - He was chosen from birth, but only knew religion until this day.
 - He DID NOT recognize that God was talking to him.
 - Might that happen to us?
 - He has a great life of productive and powerful service to God.

- **The Canaanite Woman**

- A little about this situation. Pretty much the opposite of Samuel. Unchosen.
- **Matthew 15:21-28**
- Thoughts about the Canaanite Woman's relationship with God:
 - It's a blessing to live in the Day of Salvation! (**2 Cor 6:1-2**)
 - She didn't belong and was repeatedly rejected.
 - How would you (or have you) respond to that?
 - That didn't stop her and she got her miracle from God!!
 - Maybe that's your story. (or could be your story if you don't give up!)

- **The Ethiopian Eunuch**

- **Acts 8:26-38**
- Thoughts about the Ethiopian Eunuch's relationship with God.
 - Presumably a non-Jewish believer.
 - His big moment with God was through another believer, Phillip.
 - Maybe that's your story. You trusted someone who taught you about God and you started your walk with God.
 - I'm sure there was more to the Eunuch's story, just like yours!

- Let's seek the Lord while He may be found. (maybe re reference **2 Cor 6:1-2**)

○ **Isaiah 55:6-7**

- A real relationship with the Living God is available to you personally.
- What is the story of your relationship with God?
- We all have different stories. But they can all end with a life lived with God!

- Pray for each other before you finish up!