

Possibility > Status Quo

Next Steps

11-19-23

Opening Prayer:

We have come together to share, to grow and to change.

May we all feel safe with each other. Safe to explore the scriptures and question. Safe to consider new ideas.

Safe to share our lives with each other, and with our amazing God. Amen.

Quote:

The soft-minded {person} always fears change. He feels security in the status quo, and he has an almost morbid fear of the new. For him, the greatest pain is the pain of a new idea. MLK

Breaking the Ice:

Was there a time when a teacher, boss or mentor invited you to do something more significant than even they were doing? What was the result? Have you ever done this?

Wrestling with the Word:

Read: John 14:11-14

- What promise does Jesus make to anyone who has faith?
- Why does Jesus claim that the apostles will be able to do works that are greater than his own?
- How is Jesus using the hopeful future to encourage the apostles as they are about to face times of trouble and trials?
- How does pray help us to see greater possibilities?

Next Steps:

- Whether or not we like the way things are, we tend to default to the status quo. How have you defaulted to status quo when it comes to thinking about giving?
- Leaning on Christ, we have the power to discover endless possibilities. How might you lean into the “greater than” power Jesus offers.
- Jesus isn’t really describing generosity in this passage. Nevertheless, this is something worth considering when it comes to our giving. In what ways might Jesus’ words apply to us today?
- How might a generous attitude lead to greater possibilities in our church, community and world?

Prayer for the Week:

Dear Jesus, we long for all the possibilities that you offer for the future. Help us to see how you have empowered us to do greater than what we would expect or dream. Give us the vision to see our ministry, the church and the world when we lean into your power and love. Amen.