

3.4.20 LARGE GROUP – IMAGE

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Main Text: 1 Samuel 16

- Your image doesn't matter, but your heart does
 - 1 Samuel 16:7b
- God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things
 - 1 Samuel 16:11-12
 - Psalm 139:13-14
 - You are loved and valuable
 - Examples of heroes of the Bible – unqualified, ordinary people
 - Moses, Mary, Paul
- Your power comes from God, NOT your image
 - 1 Samuel 16:12-13
 - Only at the weakest point did David receive God's power
 - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

How to Conquer Image Obsession:

- Pray
- Pause before you post
 - Why am I posting this?
 - Is it for my glory/attention?
- Fast from social media

Whose image are you living for? Yours or God's?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you in Bret's message?
2. How has social media impacted your image?
3. What was the last thing you posted on social media? Be honest – Why did you post it?
4. What do you think people see when they look at you?
5. What do you want people to see?
6. Will you commit to taking any of Bret's challenges to conquer image obsession? (pray, pause, fast)
 - Who will hold you accountable?

Dig Deeper

In Matthew 23, Jesus warns the people of the hypocrisy of the religious leaders. He explains how they only care about what others think of them, and not about the condition of their hearts.

Read Matthew 23:5, 23:25-28 as a group. Discuss the visual comparisons Jesus uses...

- What does it look like to just "clean the outside of the cup/tomb"?
- How do we "clean" our hearts?
 - Matthew 23:37-40
 - Matthew 6:33
 - This is not a promise that once we work on our hearts, we will have the "image" we desire others to see. It's a promise that when we align our hearts towards loving God and loving others, our desires start to align with God's desires. And others will begin to view us as a reflection of Christ.