

TRANSITIONS

TURNING POINT

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September 22, 2019

GROUP ICE BREAKER

What is the longest you've waited for something? Was it worth it?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will identify what is ending or being "lost" in life
- I will acknowledge losses openly and sympathetically.
- I will treat the past with respect.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

The second stage of transition is that space In-Between, of what was and what isn't yet. The concept of liminal spaces comes from Arnold Van Gennep in 1909, he describes this rite of passage to include three parts. First is separation (ending), then liminal period (space in-between), and re-assimilation (beginning). This can also be defined as transitions. Liminal space is the space In-Between, the time between the 'what was and what's next,' it's a period of waiting. Often, when we are in liminal spaces, we have the feeling of just being on the verge of something that is beyond our reach. It's in this place that we learn to trust an unknown future to all-knowing God. When we enter the space In-Between we often do not know what to do next. When we feel helpless, hopeless, frustrated, at a loss, or uncertain in the space In-Between, God never is. God is working on a plan, but that plan will rarely play itself out like we think it will. When you feel God is leading you, go after it, follow Him, pursue Him, chase Him. William Bridges says in order to navigate the space In-Between you have to lean into God, anticipate discomfort, find what continuity you can, mark milestones along the way, and be patient with the process and yourself. God is right there with you, every step of the way.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe a time when you were in the space in-between? What did it feel like?
2. How have your experiences in the space in between shaped you into the person you are today?
3. Is it easy or difficult for you to believe in the omniscience of God, that He is all knowing; past, present, and future? Share why with the group.
4. Describe a time that God provided for you while in a place that you did not want to be.
5. Read Numbers 10:33-36 and Joshua 3:1-4. Why was it important for the people to follow the ark of God, to go after it?
6. We all have milestones of God's faithfulness in our lives. Please share with the group a milestone of yours from an in-between time.
7. Read aloud and meditate on Psalm 46:10 then repeat the exercise we did during the message. How is this helpful?

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NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will trust the unknown of my future to an all-knowing God.
- I will meditate on Psalm 46:10 this week.
- I will do the next best thing I can to continue moving forward.
- I will mark the milestones of God's faithfulness as a remembrance of His grace to me.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Ruth 1:16-18
- Ruth 2:1-7, 15-17
- Psalm 37:3, 46:10
- Matthew 6:25-27
- Joshua 3:1-4