



Supernatural | A Great church and a Not-So-Great church
05.09.21

START TALKING | (Find a conversation starter for your group)

Growing up, how did you celebrate your mom on Mother's Day?

START EXPLORING | (Read the Bible)

Read Acts 4:32-37. As we heard this weekend, Barnabas brought a unique spirit to the church by modeling compassionate generosity and the gift of encouragement. Using the S.O.A.P. method, take a deeper dive into the verses listed below to discuss these two concepts. (Scripture, Observations, Application, Prayer – see back for a refresher)

Compassionate Generosity:

- Proverbs 19:17
- Matthew 25:31-46
- Luke 10:25-37
- Proverbs 11:25

Encouragement:

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Ephesians 4:29
- Proverbs 12:25
- Hebrews 10:24-25

START SHARING | (Choose a question to create openness)

What was your church background and experience like as child and teenager? How did your experience (or lack of) impact the development of your faith in Jesus?

When have you observed compassionate generosity?

What little thing is God calling you to be faithful in today? Go around the circle and name a little thing in your life that requires more of your attention.

What would it look like to have more of a Barnabas-like attitude for you? What changes would you need God to make in you?

Why is the holiness of God an important truth for our relationship with Jesus?

When have you experienced grace from another believer?

More Continued On The Back



Start Praying. (Be bold and pray with power)

“Heavenly Father, thank you for placing me at Pathways as an extension of Your Church in the 21st century. I lift up our church. I pray that you would help us to be one in heart and mind. Mold in us a Barnabas perspective that we would encourage and be kind toward one another. Give wisdom and guidance to our leadership. Help all of us to remain humble before you as we seek to glorify you. We want to be a great church so that many will come to know you and the next generation would receive the faith foundation that they could build their lives upon. Now lead me personally. Whatever role you want me to play, help me to see it, accept it, and live into it in Jesus name, amen.”

Start Doing. (Commit to a step, and live it out this week)

Ask God to show you a practical way that you could live out compassionate generosity or an act of encouragement this week to someone in our church.

WHAT DOES S.O.A.P. MEAN?

S– The S stands for Scripture- you physically write out the scripture.....you’ll be amazed that what God will reveal to you just by taking the time to slow down and actually write out what you are reading!

O– The O stands for observation- what do you see in the verses that you’re reading? Who is the audience? Is there a repetition of words? What words stand out to you?

A– The A stands for Application- this is when God’s Word becomes personal. What is God saying to me today? How can I apply what I just read to my own personal life? What changes do I need to make? Is there an action that I need to take?

P– And finally P stands for Prayer. Pray God’s Word back to Him. If He has revealed something to you during this time in His Word, pray about it. Confess if He has revealed some sin that is in your life.