

## **Deep and Wide: deep faith/wide reach**

### **Week one**

Discussion questions from the teaching on 1/7/18:

What do you think about the idea that we are God's prized possession? That YOU are God's prized possession?

Do you agree that God is about the work of reconciling us to Himself while Satan is about the work of trying to stop us from being reconciled to God?

If God is reconciling us to Himself through Christ... In what ways do you think Satan is trying to stop us from being reconciled to God?

Do you find the idea that Jesus wants ALL of us challenging, convicting, encouraging, or???

What does it mean that in Christ the new creation has come and the old has gone (caterpillar and butterfly)?

Do you believe that the God of the universe trusts you enough to entrust you with the good news as an ambassador of Christ? How does that make you feel?

What reasons might we doubt this? Do you ever feel like you aren't good enough, or know enough, or holy enough?

What do you think God says about those doubts?

Do you think God's plan is a crazy plan? Why would God choose to use the church, this gathering of disciples, to spread the good news?

When Jesus tells the disciples in Matthew 16 that He will build His church and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it, does this encourage you? Embolden you? Frighten you? Do you think it's true or do you dismiss it?

Something in the Matthew 16 passage we didn't cover is when Jesus says "whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth is loosed in heaven". What do you think this means?

If God's plan is to use the church (the gathering of disciples) to share the good news of Jesus with others and make them disciples too, does this change how you think about "whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven"?

We call Matthew 28:18-20 the great commission. Jesus says He has all authority in heaven and on earth and because of this He commissions us (the church, the gathering of disciples) to go and make disciples. Does this apply to each of us? Does this apply only to 'the church'? If so, who is 'the church'? If it doesn't apply to each of us, why not?

What is ONE big idea that struck you?