

Choose To Be Chosen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

"Choose To Be Chosen" | Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek Hufton opened this message from Philippians 3:12-14, reminding the congregation that every believer carries a genuine calling from God -- but that being called does not automatically mean being chosen. He walked through the lives of biblical figures like Saul, Samson, and David to show how the condition of our hearts determines whether God can fully use us. He challenged the group to stop deflecting responsibility onto past hurts or other people, and instead surrender wholeheartedly to the work God wants to do within us.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

3. ICE BREAKER

Think back to a time you trained hard for something -- a sport, a skill, a job, or even a school exam. What was the most surprising thing that preparation taught you about yourself?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Pastor Mirek reminded the group that Paul used the Greek word **dioko** -- meaning to actively pursue, like a runner in a race -- when he described pressing toward God's calling.**
 - What does it look like practically in your everyday life to pursue your calling rather than simply wait for it to arrive?

- 2. He drew a sharp contrast between Saul and David, noting that God consistently looks at the heart rather than outward qualifications, talent, or appearance.**

- If you are honest with yourself, what does God see when He looks at your heart right now? What would you most want Him to find there?

3. Pastor Mirek made the point that tests are not punishments -- they are God's way of revealing what is truly inside us and preparing us for greater responsibility.

- Can you think of a season of difficulty in your life that, looking back, was actually shaping you for something God had ahead? What did that season expose or develop in you?

4. He challenged the congregation to stop "deflecting" -- blaming the past, other people, or circumstances -- and instead face the truth about their own hearts with honesty and humility.

- What is one area of your life where you know you have been deflecting rather than owning your part? What would it look like to bring that honestly before God?

5. Hosea 6:6 was highlighted: God desires love and relationship with us, not just religious activity or outward sacrifice. Pastor Mirek described this as a two-way street -- God loves us deeply and longs for love in return.

- What is the difference between doing things for God and genuinely loving God? How does that difference show up in the way you spend your time and energy?

6. Pastor Mirek closed by saying that surrender is demonstrated through obedience -- to God's Word and to the prompting of the Holy Spirit -- and that a surrendered heart is the foundation of a chosen life.

- What is one area where full surrender still feels costly or difficult for you? What might taking one step of obedience in that area look like this week?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one specific weight or excuse that Pastor Mirek's message brought to mind -- something you have been carrying or hiding behind that is slowing your pursuit of God's calling. Write it down privately, bring it to God in prayer each morning this week, and take one concrete step to lay it down. That step might be a difficult conversation, returning to a discipline you abandoned, or simply telling one trusted person in your group what you are working through so they can pray with you.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for surrendered hearts -- that each person in the group would have the courage to place their whole heart on the altar before God, not just the comfortable or easy parts.

- Pray for clarity of calling -- that God would speak clearly to anyone who feels uncertain about the purpose He has placed on their life, and that they would have the boldness to press toward it.

- Pray for freedom from the past -- that the grip of old hurts, failures, and excuses would be broken, and that

each person would walk into this week lighter and more open to what God wants to do in and through them.

7. MEMORY VERSE

Philippians 3:13-14 (NKJV)

"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Thank you for leading your group this week. Your faithfulness in gathering people around God's Word matters more than you know.