

The Gathering Growth Guide

The Big Oh! Week 2 // Give God your best

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Malachi 1:6-11; 2 Samuel 24:24-25

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS BEGIN AGAIN THIS WEEK. IF YOU AREN'T SIGNED UP, YOU CAN SIGN UP FROM THE GROUPS PAGE AT THEGATHERINGNOW.COM

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

In week 2 of The Big Oh!, Eugene showed us another shocking part of God's plan for our lives, and it's this week's Big Idea: **give God your best**. How that plays out in our lives can be broken down into the following 3 questions:

1. **How can we give God our best?** Eugene pointed out that we can honor God with our best on the job, in our marriages, by being faithful, in our tithes and offerings, by giving each other our best and also by giving God our bests by how we use the gifts and talents he's given to us.
2. **How does God giving us his best help us?** God gave us his best when we sent Jesus to pay for our sins on the cross. Some of the benefits that we gain from that gift are salvation, eternal life, having our names written in the book of life and receiving new life by being born again!
3. **How does giving our best to God help us?** Let's face it, most of us want to know what the payoff is if we do something, and the great news is that when we give our best to God, we gain quite a bit in the process. We are anointed, we gain the ability to hear God, we receive power and spiritual strength, greater peace, joy and faith, and we find a new capacity to have love from God and to give love to others.

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What was something you did over the summer that was memorable?
- What's the best thing you've ever given or been given?
- Looking back over your notes from the past week, was there anything that confused you or really caught your attention?
- In this week's message, Eugene showed us that God has given his best and we should give God our best. What can we learn about giving our best from the following verses?
 - 2 Samuel 24:24
 - Romans 12:1
 - 2 Corinthians 9:7
 - John 3:16
 - Colossians 3:17
 - Luke 6:38
- Read Jude 1:4. Why do you think it's so easy to abuse grace (God's best)? Now read Hebrews 10:24. What is one strategy God has given us to keep each other from becoming lazy and giving God less than our best?