

**THE BIG IDEA:** The value of being small is that God values small things.

The Take-Off

I remember when Will was little and he came home from school and tried to tell us about someone saying a bad word at school.

“They said the S word!” Obviously, we know the S word, right, but we wanted to make sure our S word matched his, so we asked him about it. “Which S word?”

His face contorted while he tried to figure out how to say it without saying it, and he finally said, “You know. The S word!! Stupi with a D.”

With all due respect to Will and his hesitancy to say the S word, I want to call you three S words this morning, and as the power of them dawns on you, you’ll find even more Satisfaction in your Soul.

Let’s start with...

**1. We are small**

- a. A lot of the dissatisfaction that people feel can be traced back to a simple diagram:
- b. [IMG “World revolves around me”]
- c. Most of us try so hard to feel or make others feel like we are bigger than we really are, but you and I are small.
- d. [VIDEO “Earth compared to universe”]
- e. Just to make sure we really get how massive the universe is (and how small we are in it), if our galaxy (the Milky Way) was the size of North America, then our solar system would be the size of a quarter.
- f. No one knows for sure how many stars are in our galaxy, but most guesses range from 100 billion to 400 billion. If we were to take the low end and count every star in our galaxy at a rate of one/second, it would take us 3,170 years.
- g. That’s just our galaxy, the “North America” within which we are a quarter. There are between 100-200 billion other galaxies in the known universe!
- h. If we went with the low end of that count - 100 billion galaxies with 100 billion stars each - there are 10 SEPTILLION stars (a 1 with 22 zeros) in the known universe. Counting at a rate of one/second, it would take 317 TRILLION years to count them all.
- i. And that’s just the size of the universe, not the size of the God of the universe.
- j. Isaiah 40 says that he...
  - measures that universe with the span of his hand (v. 12)
  - holds the nations like a drop in a bucket (v. 15)
  - is in a league of ONE (v. 25)
  - knows every star by name (v. 26)
- k. I haven’t shared all of these mind-blowing stats to make us feel small. I’ve shared them to help us see that we ARE small!
- l. We are “significantly insignificant” (Louie Giglio)
- m. Small people ask questions like David did in Psalm 8? “God, when I see how big you are and how big the heavens are, I have to ask...who am I?”
- n. That’s the question that the next 2 S words will answer.

**2. We are seen**

- a. How big does a coin have to be before you’ll bend down to pick it up?
- b. A family in NYC actually started a blog to track what would happen if they picked up every going they found, and over 7 years they found just under \$1,100.
- c. Most of us aren’t picking up a penny, though, because we attach value and importance to size.
- d. But not God. He sees us even though we’re small, and that’s huge.
- e. I love the story where we first see this truth in Scripture, and it’s found in Genesis 16
- f. We don’t have time to go through it in detail - but you’ll want to later, it’s that good! - but Abram’s barren wife, Sarai, gives her maidservant, Hagar, to her husband to have a child with. Weird, right?
- g. So once Hagar’s pregnant, Sarai hates her and mistreats her and Hagar runs away.
- h. That’s where we pick it up in Genesis 16:8, but what we really want to see is verse 13 - that’s when this small, barely a blip on the radar servant with no rights, gives God a name. El Roi.

- i. [IMAGE - "Elroy from the Jetsons"]
- j. Not that Elroy. 2 words: El Roi, "The God who sees me."
- k. Listen, we may be small, but we're seen because we're worth finding!
- l. God sent Jesus on a search and rescue mission! (Luke 19:10)

### 3. We are safe

- a. But we aren't just seen. We're safe, because once Jesus found us, and rescued us, he became totally invested in us.
- b. Listen to the words of Psalm 91:11-16
  - we're guarded (v. 11)
  - we're held (v. 12)
  - we're heard (v. 15)
  - we're SATISFIED! (v. 16)

### The Landing

See, the value in being small is that God values small things!

- Moses just had a staff and delivered a nation
- Samson just had a jawbone and killed 1000 enemies
- David had a sling and small stones and took down a giant
- A boy had some fish and bread and it fed 5000 men

Small never means inconsequential in God's eyes, so never forget that the value of being small is that God values small things!

That's the Big Idea, and it's brings so much peace and satisfaction, doesn't it?

Because we're small, we're seen by God and we're safe with God. We're worth finding and we're worth protecting.

Can you imagine being held captive as a POW, and the team coming to rescue you peeks down into the camp.

Your eyes meet theirs, and your heart leaps because you know you've been seen.

When you feel invisible, it feels good to be seen, and yet all that joy would turn to agony if the same people who saw you then left you. Being seen is nothing if we aren't then protected and saved.

Our satisfaction comes from knowing that we have been seen and saved, and that means that because we've been seen, we can now see others who need to be saved.

That's what saved people serve people, because it's never enough to just be seen and saved.

God now turns to us and sends us out to help complete the rescue mission.

Lift up your eyes. The fields are ripe for harvest.

Do you see it?

Let's pray.