



GROUPS AT CROSS POINT

BREAKING THE ICE

What's your favorite underdog movie and why?

Explain a time where you've felt like the underdog and how you overcame the situation.



MAIN CONTENT

The last few weeks we've been going through the book of Acts and talking about the church and movement that the Apostles started.

This week Pastor Kevin talked about being the underdog. There are multiple underdogs mentioned in the Bible: Moses, David, the Apostles and Jesus were all considered underdogs. Each one, especially Jesus, made a huge impact not only in their life but in others lives for years to come.

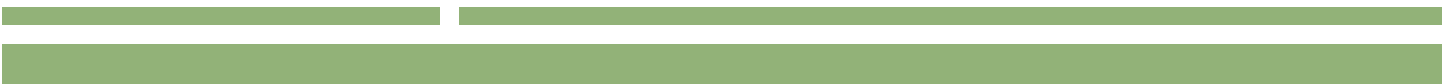
1. Which underdog in the Bible would you compare yourself to and why?

It's easy for us to feel ill-equipped, not qualified or feel we don't have the ability to start a movement. The three most common reasons we feel unqualified are 1. I don't have the education, 2. I don't have the position, and 3. I have a messed up past.

When we look through the Bible, we see God uses the most unassuming people to do great things. In the Old Testament, God used Moses, who didn't have great speech and felt uneducated, yet through God's help, he freed thousands of people from Egypt.

In the New Testament of the Bible (Acts 4:13), the Apostles were looked down upon for being uneducated and for being underdogs. But once the Pharisees saw the Apostles had been with Jesus, they knew there was something different about them.

2. Do you struggle with feeling uneducated when it comes to doing something for God? What have you done to help move past those feelings?





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In our journey to follow Jesus, we grow in our boldness to talk about the things He has done in our lives. That boldness, with the Holy Spirit in our lives, creates conversations for God to move in us and speak through us. Even if we don't know everything, the Holy Spirit that dwells within us will tell us what to say.

Read Luke 12:11-12.

3. Have you ever been in a conversation where God spoke through you to someone else? Explain what happened.

When we are willing to let God teach us, and the Holy Spirit to guide us, God will move in us and use us. A move of God does not have to be of epic proportions. It can start with a cup of coffee and a friend you talk to about your faith. These moments can start a movement in you and in others. We just need the courage from God to start the conversations.

Sometimes underdogs feel ill-equipped because they don't have the position. Don't let your position keep you from talking about your faith and reaching out to those who don't know Jesus.

Read 1 Peter 2:9.

We are all chosen to share what Jesus has done in our lives and we all get the opportunity to tell others about Jesus. In Acts 6:1-8, we see where Stephen, a server, shared what Jesus had done in his life. He did not have the position of the Apostles, yet, he shared the movement of God in his life with others.

4. When is the last time you talked about your faith with those who don't attend church or know Jesus? What happened in the situation?
5. What keeps you from sharing your faith with those who don't know Jesus?

We see that God took the uneducated and those who didn't have a position and used them for a movement. God also took those with a messy past and moved through them to further the movement of His church.

Read Acts 9: 1-19.

In Acts 9, we see where God took one of the most influential, anti-Jesus men in the Bible to reach thousands.





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Saul persecuted the church. He hated those who followed Jesus, imprisoned them and had them killed. But God chose Saul, with his messed up past, to continue the movement of the church.

6. Do you allow your past to keep you from asking God to move in your life and show others about Him? Why?
7. What will it take for you to move from your past and on to what God has asked you to do?
8. Where do you feel like God is calling you to start a movement in your life?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, we see where You have used normal people with a messed up past to do extraordinary things for You. Will You free us from feeling ill-equipped from our lack of education, position or messed up past? Will you take our fears away and give us confidence and trust in the movement You have for us to be a part of? Show us how to follow You and help others do the same. Holy Spirit, guide us to the right conversations, people and movements You want us to be a part of. In Jesus name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

Write down all the lies you tell yourself on why you believe God can't use you (the underdog). Next, to those lies write a scripture where God's promises remain true for your life. Here are a few you can write down, place around your house or in your car and memorize.

Isaiah 61:1

James 1:5

1 John 1:9

Deuteronomy 31:8

Jeremiah 29:11

Joshua 1:9

