

# CLOUD OF WITNESSES

## Big Idea

Pastor Curt – Part 5

Would you love to have a relationship with God like this from Isaiah 30:21 “Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’” You may not know what that means or have never had an encounter with God where He speaks to you and gives you direction for your life. We’re in a time where we’re all asking questions: How long will the virus affect me? How is my job going to be affected? Where will I find a job? What will next month look like? When can I stop wearing a face mask? **When you are trying to make sense of it all ... an encounter with God changes everything.** If you want a connection with God but are frustrated because you don’t know how, then this message is for you!

Pastor Curt shared three profound thoughts about encountering God in this message:

- **Our greatest pain can be a catalyst for our greatest gain**
- **When we see God clearly, we see ourselves clearly**
- **God removes our past so He can redeem our future.**

We learn from Isaiah that God wants to reveal more of Himself to us – so **we need to go all in**. God wants to change us – so **we must take our NEXT STEP**. And God has an assignment for us – so **we must discover our purpose**.

## Discussion Questions

- Talk about a time when you encountered God at a low point of your life. Share how you saw Him turn that painful moment into an opportunity for gain in your life.
- Discuss what Pastor Curt meant when he said God wants to remove our past so that He can redeem our future. What did it take (or would it take) to go “all in” with God so that you could move into the redeemed future that He has for you?
- None of us have reached the maximum possible growth in our relationship with God, which means we each have a next step to take. What is your next step in your journey with Him?
- What should be your NEXT STEP?

## Prayer Focus

Thank God that He loves you just the way you are – and that He loves you too much to let you stay as you are. Submit your pain to Him, and ask Him to reveal Himself to you in a powerful way in the midst of it. Ask God to help you release your past to Him so that you can receive forgiveness and walk in the future that He has for you.

## Next Steps

Knowing God wants to reveal more of Himself to you, go all in. Identify and take your next step in your relationship with God. Discover the purpose for which God made you, and pursue it with everything you have. If you do not yet know your purpose, jump on the Highlands Growth Track, and find out what it is

## Leader Tip

Your primary role as a small group leader is to assess the spiritual condition of your group members and help them move one step further in their walk with Christ. Take time to discuss with your group where each of you are spiritually and what your next steps should be.