

CHAPTER THREE

Your “one” thing

The Big Picture ...

It's easy to look at the big examples of people who have followed their holy discontent and say “it's not worth it - I'll never be like that!” But the truth is, we were created to do these good works. This was why we were made! The more we pursue our holy discontent, the more we become transformed into God's image.

Prepare

Read chapter three in *Holy Discontent*, and look over the verses below.

Ice-Breaker

Spend some time talking about “one things.” If you could only eat at one restaurant for the rest of your life, which would it be? If you could only watch one movie for the rest of your life, which one would you choose?

God's Words

Read**Made Alive in Christ - Ephesians 2:1-10**

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Discuss

Use some or all of the following questions to talk about the Scriptures.

1. What do you find encouraging in this passage?
2. What is confusing to you? (*Discuss these things as a group, looking for other scriptural backing for your conclusions.*)
3. What challenges you?
4. What does the passage teach you about God and his character?
5. In *Holy Discontent*, Hybels mentions verse 10. How does the verse speak to you? How does it relate to the themes in the book?

Hybels' Words

'Opt in' to that 'one thing'

"The danger in opting out of the holy discontent pursuit is that in doing so, you also opt out of tackling the good works God has wired you up to accomplish. The goal, friends, is to cultivate your soul's soil so that this doing-of-good-works process can unfold in your life - or, as you might say, to opt in. There is no greater satisfaction this side of heaven!" - *Holy Discontent*, p. 51

"You may find yourself affected deeply by all sorts of troubling situations in our world, but this does not necessarily mean you've landed on that *one thing* to which you should devote your entire life. ... Your one thing is the *exact* thing that will create enough tension and angst, carve out enough capacity for activism, and stir up enough of an internal fire storm that you'll have no choice but to suit up and get in the game." - *Holy Discontent*, p. 52 & 61

Discuss

1. Are there passions you have that probably *aren't* your holy discontent? Explain why and what the difference could be.
2. We've spent the last two weeks talking about our holy discontents. But in this chapter, Hybels challenges us to find that *one thing* that wrecks us "when we see it, when we hear it, and when we get close to it." Spend time talking about what your "one thing" might be. As a group, help one another discern what passions God has put in each person's heart based on what you know about each individual. Encourage each other in the search. And help those non-committal people share something, too!

3. What do you need to do in response to today's study?

Your Words

We pick one thing from *Holy Discontent* to talk about each week, but what stood out to you?

1. What did you like best?
2. What challenged you or did you disagree with?
3. What did you learn that opened your eyes to a new side of God?
4. What do you need to apply from the reading?

Close

Challenge each other to keep up with the reading and to spend time praying about that "one thing" on which God may be calling you to focus your energy and attention.

Don't forget to take time to share prayer requests!