

WHAT IF?
Infinitely More
Pastor Dennis Clanton
Woodland Church
Sunday, September 20, 2020

“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.”
(Ephesians 3:20–21, NLT)

“The Christian church is the one organization in the world that exists purely for the benefit of non-members.” -William Temple

1. Sometimes you have to a mental detox.

“Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.”
(Luke 24:45, NLT)

“Change is the essence of life. Be willing to surrender what you are for what you could become.” -Author Unknown

- Admit that you have sinned. (Romans 3:23)
- Believe that Jesus Christ died for you. (John 1:12)
- Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of your life. (Romans 10:9-10)

2. Do life with people who dream, imagine, and ask “what if?”

“I don’t want to hang around people who brighten the room when they leave it; I want to hang around people who brighten the room when they enter it!”
-Zig Ziglar

“Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark. But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them ... Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus.” (Acts 15:37–39, NLT)

3. **Expand your thinking by imagining what if!**

"A man is what he thinks about all day long." -Ralph Waldo Emerson
"We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God." -A. W. Tozer

"You don't have enough faith," Jesus told them. "I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible."
(Matthew 17:20, NLT)

"Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see." (Hebrews 11:1, NLT)

THINK ABOUT IT

1. Ask yourself some "what if questions this week?" Elizabeth Cody Newenhuyse wrote, "My husband I like to pay "what if?" We sit and toss out ideas: What if we moved out of state? What if we enclosed our porch? What if we got a dog? Some of the what ifs come to fruition; others don't. But we've found that the very process airs out our marriage, opens doors and windows of possibility, draws us closer. It's not an idle exercise; to dream, to crack open that door, starts things happening."
-Marriage Partnership, Vol 7, #3
2. According to Hebrews 11:1 what is faith? How does the Bible's definition help you imagine "what if to dream God inspired possibilities for the sake of the kingdom of heaven in your community? Your family? Your marriage? Your career? Unchurched friends? Dechurched friends?
3. How can you leave the campus of Woodland Church this week to go into the community to bless someone with what you have learned today?
4. Does your daily devotional life inspire and encourage you to ask, "what if?"
5. Admit any fear, confess any procrastination, and ask God to help you live each moment by faith, by trusting in God's promise to you! Create a three-month plan to start living in the infinitely more of God's power in your life.

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7, NLT)

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