



At the Movies Come Alive!

#npmovies

Week 5

5 of 5

July 21, 2019

Bottom Line: God created you for a unique and significant purpose; dream big!

Icebreaker: Who is your favorite actor/actress? Why? Have you ever been to the circus? If so, how old were you and what do you most remember?

Key Verse: *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* Ephesians 2:10

We are all like P. T. Barnum and his amazing troupe of "misfits" in a core way: We all want to lead lives of significance and impact. But too often rejection and struggle lead us away from believing in our purpose in the great drama God is directing on the planet right now during our lifetimes. But God's dreams and visions for us are monumental; we can afford to dream big!

At least four truths that originated in God's heart are easily found in *The Greatest Showman*: **1) Accept who God made you to be.** You are a child of the living God. Let God's vision determine your reality, not the world or what others say about you. When you experience rejection, you can use the pain to fuel you to help others discover their worth. **2) Love without boundaries.** Jesus sought out all kinds of people and told them, "You are exactly who I am looking for!" As followers of Jesus we find our calling and empowerment from Him to be a visible, tangible expression of love without division, across barriers, not within them. **3) Dream big!** You can dream on your own, but God has a dream and a vision for each life that is even bigger than what you could ever dream up for yourself. When you embrace His dreams and go after them with tenacity, courage, and enthusiasm, your life will explode with meaning and purpose. **4) Don't let resistance win.** Striving for fulfillment of the dreams and visions God has for you will attract criticism and challenges. You have an Enemy, and he will make sure there is resistance. There will always be critics. There will always be those who do not understand what God has called you to do. But the things God has called you to do matter—to you, to God, and to others. More than you can imagine. Don't give up. God created you for something that exactly fits you. It's where your significance lies. Dream His dream and help others find their place in in the wonderful plan and purpose of God!

THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from today's message?

Remember, when you are the one who is rejected and broken, there are also many rejected and broken people around you. How can you move outside yourself to help them?

People don't really want money and fame. Deep down we all long for acceptance, to belong to something meaningful. Money, fame, and power have never come close to filling the void in anyone's life, and it won't in yours. Reflect and discuss.

How does NewPointe's mission tap into people's need for connection, community, and purpose? How do you find those needs addressed here?

Sometimes we think God couldn't possibly use us, but He places people in our lives to speak truth and encourage us to pursue our God-given dreams. When has God used someone to speak encouragement like this to you?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

God is pleased when we defy rejection and celebrate who we are. What would you say to someone who struggles with that thought?

All people, even those on the fringes of society, have gifts and a place in the family. They can find a platform for service to bring meaning to their lives and others. Do you know of a current story that is being written right now like this?

Jesus loves without boundaries and so can we. We can love well and treat every person, regardless of differences, with dignity and respect, as co-creations in the image of God. Where are you sensing this to be most difficult in our culture?

Sometimes it means setting a standard of honor toward those society has a hard time valuing. What does that look like? Where do you feel the most push-back emotionally?

How can you encourage yourself or others when facing resistance and rejection?

NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Consider these questions: What is my deepest dream? How often do I experience passion in my daily life? How often do I take risks that require God's involvement?
- 2) What do you believe is the "one true thing" God put you on this planet to do? What can you be doing to work with God on it?
- 3) Who is a perceived "misfit" person or group in your line of vision whom you can welcome?

EVALUTION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: God created you for a unique and significant purpose; dream big!

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Monday: Galatians 3:28; Romans 15:7

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 16:7

Wednesday: John 15:5

Thursday: Galatians 6:9

Friday: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)