

TALK IT OVER

The In-Between Places

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If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

Scriptures

John 2:6-9 (GW)

Questions:

1. What's an 'in-between place' you're living in right now? Life is full of transitions. Maybe you're waiting on a job, a diagnosis, or clarity. What season are you in-between, and how does it feel?
2. God often works in what we see as empty or insignificant. What's something in your life right now that seems small—but could be sacred? Think about those "waterpots" in John. What are your empty waterpots God might want to use?
3. When has God done a quiet miracle in your life—something you, or others, didn't notice until later? Share a time when, looking back, you realized water had turned into wine.
4. Are you more focused on being efficient or being effective? Efficiency is doing things right. Effectiveness is doing the right things. How do you prioritize 'doing the right things' versus 'doing things in the right way'? Where might God be calling you to reconsider your prioritization?
5. Has there been a time when God used a detour to actually get you where you needed to be? Like the man who moved for a job but found new life instead—describe a time when God's plan A was hiding in your plan B.
6. Why do you think we're tempted to rush through the in-between places? What do we lose when we try to fast-forward through the seasons that grow us?

7. Have you ever felt doubtful while filling the jars wondering what the point was? What kept you going—or what would help you keep going when things are harder—when you don't see results right away?
8. Who are you overlooking in the 'in-between' moments of your life? Like the man in the park, sometimes God shows up through a conversation you didn't plan. Who's sitting on the bench next to you?
9. What can God do with your current margins if you gave it to Him?
10. What might God be doing in your mundane, repetitive routines? Whether it's parenting, working, or just showing up—where do you need to believe that obedience matters, even when it feels ordinary?
11. What's one way you can be faithful this week in your 'in-between place'? Not big or flashy—just within your current margins if you gave them to Him? What step of obedience can you take that might open the door to something miraculous?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:
<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>
2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curricula.

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Maturity@saddleback.com