

Refueling for the Journey

Vision Update 2011

Isaiah 58

Ice Breaker: Describe a time when you got really excited about something – and for a while you invested yourself in it – but over time, the excitement waned, and you moved on to something else.

BIG IDEA: The vision for WFMC is still ‘transformation’: allowing the Holy Spirit to transform us from the inside out – so that we can become agents of transformation in this broken world that Christ died for. And the path to living in the reality of God’s transforming presence will be laid out for us as we live out Isaiah 58:6ff; and focus our time, talent, and treasure on serving the poor and marginalized of our world.

Digging Deeper:

- 1) Read Isaiah 58:1-5. What is it that the people of Israel are frustrated about? Why aren’t they experiencing the fullness of God’s presence in their lives?
- 2) Read Isaiah 58:6-12. What kind of “fast” does God prescribe for Israel’s transformation?
- 3) The second half of Isaiah 58 is laced with “If/Then” statements. Make a list of all the things God promises to be and do for His people – if they will enter into His prescribed “fast.”
- 4) Read Matthew 25:31-46. How does God’s concern for the poor in Isaiah 58 (in the OT) compare with Jesus’ concern for the poor (in the NT)? What does this say about God? How should this inform our lives – both individually and as a church family?
- 5) Pastor Joshua shared some wonderful updates on how we as a church are beginning to live out Isaiah 58. What’s been the most exciting aspect of this vision for you to see or participate in?
- 6) Dream together about what might happen in our lives (and in our church) as we continue to walk this Isaiah 58 path? What impact would it have on our church? Our community? Our world?
- 7) Spend some time giving God praise for what He’s doing in and through us. Then spend a few minutes sharing and praying with each other – that God would show you (and your small group) specific ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our world.