



VALLEYS

Valleys: The Valley of Breakthrough

May 30th & 31st

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson

Scripture: 2 Samuel 5:1-5,17-21

Series Overview

We love mountaintops, but the valleys are where faith is forged, vision is revealed, and breakthroughs happen. It's in the valleys of life that His presence is made real and His power is made perfect. During this series, we'll navigate the valley of giants, the valley of shadows, the valley of decision, the valley of heartbreak, and the valley of vision. It's in the valley that we discover who we are, and more importantly, who God is.

Series Discussion Questions

How have some of the valleys you've experienced shaped who you are today?
How have they shaped your understanding of God?

Message Overview

This weekend we venture into the final valley in this series, the Valley of Breakthrough. Breakthrough happens in lots of different ways. It's small steps of faith. It's long obedience in the same direction. It's forgiving those who have hurt us. The common denominator? Zechariah 4:6 says, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord." In the midst of tremendous uncertainty, one thing is certain. God is able. In fact, God is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us! This weekend we believe God for the breakthrough, individually and corporately.

In addition to this week's message, Dr. Kerley Most, psychotherapist and Capitol Hill NCC'er, helps us to navigate valleys with the help of her professional counseling background. [Check out this week's video](#) on ways to use your own story as a bridge for breakthroughs.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Open your time together this week in worship: [Won't Stop Now](#), [This is a Move](#)

Take some time (or give your group members a few minutes) to identify a physical object around the house that represents or could represent breakthrough. Show and tell for a few minutes to explain why.

Read 1 Chronicles 14:10-11 in the NLT version. "...So they named that place Baal-perazim (which means 'the Lord who burst through')." Where have you seen the Lord "burst through" in your life? What is a recent breakthrough you have had in your life?

Has someone else's brave been your breakthrough? Has someone else's legacy been your destiny? Has someone else prayed prayers that you're the answer to? Has someone else's faith been your foundation? How?

Who has God placed in your life to recognize potential in you? In whose life has God placed you to recognize potential in them?

What do you do when you're under attack spiritually? What do you do when the enemy knocks on your door? What did David do in 2 Samuel 5:17, 1 Samuel 30:6, and 2 Samuel 5:19? What would it look like for you to do the same?

David prayed through to the breakthrough and gave God a sacrifice of praise (Psalm 42). Where do you need to experience a breakthrough? Break into groups of 3-4 people to share with one another, if comfortable, and pray for one another.

Practical Application

- Spend time watching [Dr. Most's video](#) this week.
 - Create a life map, exploring your life events with curiosity to help you become more aware of God's fingerprint in Your life.
 - Share aspects of your story with someone you feel comfortable with and as God leads you.
- Take some time to reflect with the Lord about any ways you may be editing your dreams or your personal anointing because of what others think. Ask the Lord if there is anyone you need to forgive in this area and release them to His care. Ask the Lord for a fresh vision on your dreams and for more of His Holy Spirit to anoint you for His service.
- Commit to praying for breakthrough on a daily basis for one other member of your group throughout the first ten days of June. Join us for the "Upper Zoom" at 7:14am from June 1-10. Register at ncc.re/breakthrough.
- If you shared that someone else's brave, legacy, prayer, or faith has influenced who you are today, take the time to write and mail that person a handwritten note.