



No Vacancy

Part 2 - "Making Room By Clearing Our View"

Small Group Material

December 4th, 2016

Participant Guide

Bottom Line: *If you can see clearly, everything changes.*

Study Verses: *1 Peter 1:13-16, Matthew 6:22-23, Titus 2:11-14*

Key Points

- *We are no longer trapped by our former ignorance, but freed by future grace.*
- *The moments we want most to escape are the moments we most need to engage.*
- *We like faith on our terms. But, hope requires uncertainty.*
- *When we're constantly attracted by the common, we are not available to the holy.*
- *Time is the way grace comes to us.*
- *People tend to see what they're looking for.*
- *Future grace is the recognition that God meets us in the moments as we walk by faith.*
- *Worry keeps us stuck in patterns of former ignorance.*

ENCOUNTER

- **Would you say you are an optimist or pessimist? When things don't go according to plan, are you an escapist or control freak? How do your**

answers influence your emotions and how you view your ability to change?

- How have you experienced confirmation bias (people tend to see what they're looking for) in your life and the lives of others? How does this lens impact one's hope for change?
- What's the difference between seeing your emotions through the lens of God's purpose rather than funneling God's purpose through the lens of your emotions?

FORMATION

- Read 1 Peter 1:13-16. In this passage how does the author contrast future hope with former ignorance? What fuels our former ignorance? How does giving in to this line of thinking lead to past patterns and unchecked desires?
- Read Titus 2:11-14. What role does setting our mind on future grace play in our transformation process? What is the key to not getting stuck in old patterns?
- Read Matthew 6:22-23. What does Jesus want us to understand about our perspective and the lens we use to view life?

EXPRESSION

- What has been your most dominant emotion (pick one positive and negative) in 2016? Why have these emotions made an extended appearance in your life?
- Do you trust and believe God has a purpose for your current circumstances? What makes you answer in the way that you do? Does your answer match the way you are responding to your circumstances?
- Where are you struggling to see beyond the present moment or viewing yourself through your past patterns?
- How are you allowing your emotions be the lens you use to view your circumstances? What would it look like to clear your view?