

# OUTSIDE THE BOX

## Outside The Box

## Part 1 - "Understanding What's In It"

Small Group Material

July 23rd, 2017

Participant Guide

**Bottom Line:** *The first step in getting outside your box is understanding what's in it.*

**Study Verses:** *Acts 2:37-47, Matthew 28:18-20, Matthew 5:13-16, 1 Peter 4:10*

### Key Points

- *God is capable of doing things in and through us that are beyond our capabilities.*
- *If we live life with a consumer mindset, we'll also view church as just another big box store - a place to shop for the fulfillment of our consumer-oriented, spiritual desires.*
- *The church was birthed, in part, to be active in the world around us.*
- *By learning from Jesus, the church was meant to think outside the box.*
- *Beyond our walls is a world in need and the needs are great.*
- *In order to be yourself, you must know yourself. Knowing yourself begins with knowing the ONE who created you.*
- *God is currently on a mission. His mission is to redeem the earth. God has written you into the same mission.*
- *In the places where there is the greatest tension lies the places God can do His best work in us.*

## **ENCOUNTER**

- How does one know when they are just going through the motions with their faith?
- What are some warning signs that point to a church body being stuck in a rut spiritually and having a consumer mindset? What happens to the community when this occurs?
- In terms of your faith, what comes to mind when you are urged to live "outside the box"? What are some ways one can display this mindset?

## **FORMATION**

- Read Acts 2:37-47. In what ways did the early church live "outside the box"? How did their lifestyle cause others to take notice and respond to what they were seeing?
- Read Matthew 28:18-20 and Matthew 5:13-16. What mission has Christ given the church? How is this mission accomplished? What makes you answer in the way that you do?
- Read 1 Peter 4:10. Why is it critical that we understand what's inside our box and the gifts we've been given?

## **EXPRESSION**

- Where are you letting comfort, convenience and routine win in your faith journey? Why are these qualities prevailing in your life?
- In order to be yourself, you must know yourself. How aware are you of the gifts and talents God has given you? What are you doing with the gifts you've been given?
- Where have you felt an urge to step out of your comfort zone and serve others? What would it look like to live "outside the box" in this area?