

Rough Crowd “Sarah”- Jim Burgen

August 19-20, 2017

Community:

1. Have you ever had a time in your life where you were pushed to your limits in something like fitness/sports, work, or in a relationship? What did you learn about yourself?
2. Think about a memorable moment where you went somewhere or experienced something for the first time. What was that moment like and what were you doing?

Core:

1. Have you experienced God telling you to do something or go somewhere? If so, what was He was asking you to do? How did He speak to you? How did you respond?
2. **Read Genesis 12:1-4.** What stands out to you in this story? What do you notice about God’s instruction and promise to Abram? What was Abram’s response?
3. Jim said that when you don’t understand what God is doing, the answer is not to take matters into your own hands, the answer is not to be passive and do nothing, and the answer is never to sin in order to accomplish God’s plan. Be honest with yourself, which one these is your default response? What’s the result of that response?
4. **Read Matthew 11:28.** Do these words of Jesus speak to you in any way? If so, how? What are you laboring over? Where do you need rest?
5. Jim asked everyone this question, “*Can you hold onto faith and trust in the Lord and not let go of the Lord when life and the Lord don’t seem to make sense?*” Ask yourself, what do you think it is going to take in order to trust God in seasons of your life where nothing makes sense? What is one practical step you can take or something you can ask God for in order to increase your faith and trust in Him during confusing seasons?

Challenge:

Jim mentioned the quote by T.S. Elliot which says, “*Unless you’re willing to go too far, you’ll never know how far you can go.*” For this week’s challenge, take some time to think about, pray about, and journal your thoughts around what you are struggling to understand or have struggled to understand in the past and lay them beside these truths:

Jesus knows all about you.

Jesus knows what you can become.

Jesus knows what can happen because of how strong He is willing to make you.

What if God sees something in you that you don’t see in yourself and is using what you are going through to show you what He sees in you? There’s only one way to find out, follow Him....

