

The War Effort – Moving Into New Territory

April 1-2, 2017

Community:

1. What's something that you've never done or experienced that you'd like to try some day?
2. Do you have a baptism story? If so, what was special about that day for you?

Core:

1. Think about a time when you were about to step into something unknown. What was that and what was that experience like? Did anything change about your life after following through? If so, what changed?
2. Think about your life and your walk with Jesus. Is there an *unknown factor* in your faith and in your life? Does this *unknown* in your walk with Jesus or in this season of life excite you or terrify you? What excites or terrifies you the most about it?
3. Jim talked about how (throughout the Bible) we can see God commanding His people to set up markers or milestones after He brought them through something unknown — to remind them of how faithful God had been. With that in mind, what is your favorite story in the Bible of God's faithfulness and how it's shown in that story? How can that story speak to what you are walking through right now?
4. With God's faithfulness in mind, what's something that God has brought you through? What memories do you have of God's faithfulness in that season and how can it speak to the current unknown situation you are facing now?
5. **Read Matthew 3:13-17.** What stands out to you about Jesus' baptism? Why do you think it was important for Jesus to get baptized? Why do you think it was important for God to declare who Jesus was to Him and how do you think it affected Jesus as He stepped into the next *unknown* in His life?
6. **Read Philippians 1:6.** When you read that Jesus won't stop working in your life until He finishes what He started, what do you feel? Is there a next step in your walk that you think Jesus is spurring you to take? What do you need from Jesus to make that first step?

Challenge:

The unknown in our lives can be terrifying and difficult to face—whether that's having that scary conversation inviting somebody to church on Easter or taking that next step in your marriage or making a change at work or with friendships. No matter what that *unknown* is, God's still in control and will keep every promise He's made. Take time this week to read Philippians 1:6 and make a commitment to memorize it to help when fear of the unknown arises —and remember that Jesus will never stop working in your life until He finishes what He started.