

BUILT DIFFERENT SERIES CONTENT

WEEK 1: More than Conquerors

Built Different Leader(s) Welcome

Ice Breaker - 4 questions

What's your name?

How long have you been coming to Shoreline City?

What's your favorite snack?

What are you hoping to get out of this group?

Clip - <https://shoreline.city/BuiltDifferentWeek1>

The video we just saw and the verses we read remind us that God is the one who calls us. In our walk, we can lose a battle but ultimately we will win the war because HE has already won! Romans 8:37 says, "in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." It is great to be victorious, but we are deemed more than conquerors because of our association with Jesus Christ. His victory on the cross gives us full access to healing, salvation, freedom, and victory over the enemy. When we go through diverse trials, He reminds us, "you've already won!" Romans 8:31 says, "what, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Before we dive into the questions, let's all take turns reading through Romans 8.

Questions:

1. We all must understand the world isn't how God intended it to be. Sin came in and brought death, disease and brokenness. The Bible teaches us that shame and insecurity entered the world when Adam and Eve decided to turn their backs on God. How has shame or insecurity slowed you down from walking in the confidence we are called to have in Christ?

2. What part of your life is Jesus trying to work on so you fully see yourself as forgiven, strong and called?

3. Do you think your current patterns and habits (work, friends, social media, books, etc.) help you understand who we are in Christ or hurt that understanding? Why or Why not?



Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the approval of your love. We don't have to strive to prove anything to you. You've called us to be more than conquerors. Our prayer is that we would live from this revelation. Help us to always fight from a place of victory. We pray for victory over our family, over our health, over our weaknesses, and over the lies of the enemy! We are surrounded, covered, and empowered to be victorious in every area of our lives, making it on earth as it is in heaven. May we lead and live like the champions you created us to be. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Homework

Before next week's session, read through Romans 8, and let this chapter get rooted in your heart! Memorize your favorite verse from Romans 8, and share it with the group next week!



WEEK 2: Post a Guard

Built Different Leader(s) Welcome

Ice Breaker - What's in your purse/wallet?

Each person shares what's in their purse/wallet and why they carry what they carry.

Review the homework from week 1 and ask the group how they applied last week's devotional and homework to their life.

Clip - <https://shoreline.city/BuiltDifferentWeek2>

End of the video shows the scripture that the CG will read.

When we feel alone, it's our connect group and community that comes alongside us and encourages us to believe again. When we get a dream from the Lord and it seems daunting to us, it's the people around us that challenge us to not stop believing! Jesus himself was in community! He had the disciples, and he left us the Great Commission which is to go out and make disciples. Disciples make communities! As we continue to build His church and make it on earth as it is in heaven, let's continue to remember and remind each other that the moment is always better when you have your people with you! Choose multiple people in your Built Different group to read these passages of scripture.

Nehemiah 4:13-15 "Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work."

2 Timothy 1:7 "For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."



Ephesians 6:13-17 “Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

Questions:

How have you seen the weight of life affect you in a negative way because you didn't post a guard?

One of the tactics the enemy uses to get us off the path God has created for us is isolation. In what ways have you seen isolation play a role in your life personally or those around you?

In this sermon, Pastor Oneka says, “your ‘so much’ isn't too much for God.” In what ways have you felt like what you are walking through (or walked through) is even too great for God to handle? How has this mindset impacted your victory, either past or present?

Prayer:

Lord, we thank you for seeing every situation and we know that you hear each prayer. Even when we walk through adversity and trials, you are with us. You are the very present help in the time of need. We don't fight alone, and we don't walk alone. When we are being ridiculed or doubted, let our faith and trust in you stand strong. Let us be the ones that choose to encourage and support our community. May we be the ones that go first with affirmation, even when people did not expect it. Give us strength to continue on and persevere in love. Amen.

Homework

Before next week's session, read through Nehemiah 4 and see how the people of God came together to accomplish a God-given mandate.



WEEK 3: Watch Your Mouth

Ice Breaker - Two Truths and a Tale

Each person in the group tells two truthful things about themselves and one thing that is totally made up. The group has to guess to see if they can figure out which one is the tale and which ones are the truths.

Review the homework from week 2 and ask the group how they applied last week's devotional and homework to their life!

Clip - <https://shoreline.city/BuiltDifferentWeek3>

End of the video shows the scripture that the CG will read.

Sometimes we base our decisions on what is good for us instead of what God can do through us. When we try to justify sacrificing ourselves, we think if we sacrifice something, then we will have nothing. However, in the ways of the Kingdom, if we sacrifice something for the glory of God, then we will gain everything. Let us be a community that champions each other's sacrifices and may we continue to walk in humility and present every sacrifice as holy and pleasing to the eyes of the Lord. Let's dig deeper into what humility looks like from Jesus' perspective.

Micah 6:8 "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Matthew 11:29-30 "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."



SHORELINE

John 3:26-30 “They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.” To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less.”

Questions:

Think about a time you chose not to walk in humility. What lesson did you learn from that experience?

In John 3:26-30, how does John show us the way to submit to Jesus? How does he model the importance of becoming less so Jesus can become more? How have you done this in your personal life?

What are some things God has placed on your heart that you can help make more like heaven? What part do you feel like God is calling you to play to make it on earth as it is in heaven?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for making the ultimate sacrifice so that I would live again. Thank you for the community and friends in my life that can tell me if my heart has slipped into a place that I don’t want it in. I pray that as we continue through this series that you will soften my heart and replace my pride with humility. Help me to become more like you. In Jesus’ name, Amen!

Homework

As we get ready for week 4, read John 12 and Philippians 2. Ask yourself how you can continue to pour out a pure sacrificial offering to the Lord in your daily life.



WEEK 4: Rooted In Faith

Built Different Leader(s) Welcome

Ice Breaker - High/Low/Thankful

Ask everyone in the group what their 'high' and 'low' were for the week, and what they are thankful for. This is something we practice as a family around the dinner table.

Clip - <https://shoreline.city/BuiltDifferentWeek4>

End of the video shows the scripture that the CG will read.

CG Leaders - Read

As we start to come to the end of this series, our prayer is that the people who are going through this discussion with you are people that you can link arms with and find strength in each other. In the highest of highs and the lowest of lows, may your community and your connect group be there every step of the way. When you have brothers and sisters in your corner cheering you on, encouraging you, sharpening you, and praying for you, life may not get easier, but it becomes better. May our relational roots be planted deep no matter what storm may come!

Matthew 26:36-38 "Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."



Questions:

How do you nurture your spiritual roots and stay connected with your community?

What does being 'planted' in a church mean to you?

How has your pain or healing encouraged someone in their struggle?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help us to be deeply rooted and connected in our communities. May we draw strength from one another, growing together in your love and grace, ready to face life's storms as a united body in Christ. We pray to abound in understanding and forgiveness. Help us to be present for each other and have connections that go far beyond the surface level. We want to be root deep and root binding. Let this be the formation of our community, our family, and your kingdom. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Homework

Next week is the last week in our Built Different series! Read through Psalms 92, and take some time to reflect on how you can continue to stay planted in community.



WEEK 5: Good News

Built Different Leader(s) Welcome

Ice Breaker - Reflection

This is the last part of the series! Take this time to reflect and talk about how your life has been impacted so far by this series.

Review the homework from week 4, and ask the group how they applied last week's devotional and homework to their life.

Clip - <https://shoreline.city/BuiltDifferentWeek5>

Someone may never get a chance to read a Bible, but their encounter with you may be all they need to feel the love of Jesus. When we let the light of Christ shine through us, it allows people to be drawn to Jesus. There is such a beauty in sharing the gospel and sharing your testimony. God uses your experiences, history, and everything about you to be able to reach out to someone in need. Whatever the Lord has given you and has brought you through, may we use it to lead others to Jesus.

Matthew 5:14 “You are the light of the world, a city on a hill that can't be hidden.”

Revelations 12:11 “They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”



Questions:

As you are growing in your faith, what is one story you want to learn from and hear how they made it to the other side? For example: A bad medical report was given and God miraculously healed their body. Or a marriage was on the brink of divorce and experienced restoration. Or someone was struggling with addiction, and God set them free.

What opportunities can you seek to testify about God's mercy and love?

Describe in 2-3 minutes how Jesus has changed your life.

What makes us afraid to share our story with people who are of a different faith?

Prayer:☒

Lord, thank you for the marvelous works you have done in our lives. You are so gracious we never want to forget your sacrifice. We pray for courage and wisdom as we share our stories, spreading your message of hope and salvation. Your intent for us was never to be in isolation but to be a city set on a hill, a light pointing others to you. Help us realize that we have more than enough. What we've been through, what we've learned, and what you've taught us is powerful enough to lead our family, friends, and community into your love. Let our lives be glorifying to you as a testimony of your grace. We love you, and we're open and available to you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

Homework:

Gather together as a group 1 time next month to see how everyone is doing! Stay connected by making a group message, and challenge yourself to reach out to the people in your group, pray for them, go through JOIN together, and lead another connect group together!

