



DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING
finding clarity in the chaos

STUDY GUIDE

THE POINT: We will always be frustrated with life until we begin to walk in what we were created to live for.

This week we begin a new series where we explore the opportunities of COVID-19. Yes, you heard right, the opportunities. COVID-19 came and changed our lives, but it has also pushed us to ask a particular question—what really matters to us? Before the pandemic, we were busy doing those things that were seemingly important to us, but are not nearly as important any longer. We began to give attention to the things that matter most to us; seeking clarity in the chaos.

Jesus gives us this clarity in Matthew 22:36-39. In summary, He says the two most important commandments are to Love God and Love People. Jesus doesn't want us to race back to normal. Instead He says, 'Don't waste your pandemic! While you have this season of newfound clarity, I have a plan and a purpose for you.' In fact, God's plan and purpose for you is to be right here, right now in the COVID-19 pandemic, loving God and loving people. It is what you were created for!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read and discuss Ephesians 19:1-12. Paul makes it clear, gives us clarity, that God has a plan and a purpose for us and it's not what we were doing before we met Jesus? What clarity has the pandemic given you? How do you see God's plan and purpose in your life right now?
2. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
3. Reality check: Read Psalm 139:14-18. Did you know you are God's masterpiece? That He has formed and shaped every one of your days and determined the places you would live? That He has been thinking about you more times than you can count before you were even born? WHY?
4. What mattered to you the most before the pandemic? What matters the most now?
5. Has there been a thing, a place, a person, an experience that you thought that if I had that my life would finally be good? Did it satisfy you? Did it give you life?
6. You were made to find life only in Jesus, a life found in loving God and loving people. Where have you had, or seen the opportunity to experience this life during the pandemic?

ACTION STEPS

- God did not expect you to experience life, or a pandemic, alone. Over the coming weeks we will be introducing two new ways to gather:
 - **HOUSE CHURCH**- approximately ten people who gather in a home to watch and discuss the worship service, socialize, invite new people, and make plans to serve in our community.
 - **HUDDLE**- four people of the same gender who commit to meeting together weekly for a year to discover and deepen their relationship with Jesus and each other.
- What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?
- Read the DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING Devotional.