

From Here to There

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Introduction

Whether blowing out candles or throwing a coin in a fountain, we've all made wishes. They seem like fantasies, but some small part of us holds out hope that they could come true. Some of our wishes are silly and frivolous. But some of them are huge. Sometimes we feel stuck in life. We know where we are, but wish we were somewhere else. How do you turn those big wishes into reality? How do you get from here to there?

Scripture

"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:4–6

Discussion Questions

1. What is one thing, large or small, that you've wished for? How did you imagine that the fulfillment of that wish would change your life?
2. What are some reasons that people allow the pursuit of good things to get in the way of God's best for their lives? To what extent do you find yourself choosing good things over God's best?
3. Read Philippians 1:9–11. In what ways do you think loving more could help you know "what is best" in your life? What are some specific ways it would change the way you relate to God and with other people?
 - *Leader Tip: Emphasize the fruits of righteousness— purity and blamelessness— mentioned in the passage. Ask how your small group can commit to practicing these in their daily lives.*
4. During the message, Clay said, "God's wishes for your future are greater than his worries about your past." Is it difficult for you to believe that statement? Why or why not?
5. What is one thing you can do this week to begin to uncover God's wish for you? What can this group do to support you?

Take Away

God loves you. He has given you freedom to navigate your life. But he has wishes for your life—your future, family, marriage, and career—that are beyond what you can imagine. Your first step on that journey is to surrender to your heavenly Father.