

Light for the World

Isaiah 49:1-6

God calls us to think as big as He does!

1. Small thinking focuses on self.
2. Big thinking focuses on the purposes of God.

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. Pastor Ken talked about two errors churches often fall into: isolating themselves from the people they're called to reach, and compromising so much that they don't look any different than their culture. Which do you think most churches fall into? Which do we tend toward? Anything we need to do about it?
2. Read Isaiah 49:1-6. Who is it speaking to? What small thinking does it identify? What does God ultimately want?
3. What keeps us locked into small thinking? How do we bust out of it?
4. How can you think bigger in prayer? How self-centered are your prayers? Do your prayers center around your own purposes, asking God to bless you, or around God's purposes, asking Him to use you? Look at some of the prayers of Paul (Eph 1:15-23, Eph 3:14-21, Phil 1:9-11, Col 1:9-12, 1 Tim 2:1-6, Philemon 1:6) and discuss what the main components of those prayers are.
5. How can you think bigger in your home? Is your home a lighthouse to your community, or do you isolate yourself, thinking it's enough just to get by in this corrupt culture?
6. How can you think bigger in ministry? Does the ministry you're involved in (are you involved in one?) think about the outreach potential of all that it does? How can you do better at building bridges to the people God wants us to reach?