



Part 9: Canvas and Vastness

Big Idea

This week, Pastor Charlotte Gambill brings a powerful message on how God wants to bring to fruition the vastness of His dreams for our lives, but also the importance of us grounding them in the place He has planted us. Often God brings us out into His vastness to conceive in us a dream or idea, but these dreams or ideas are almost always then birthed and grown in the canvas of our lives—our community, family, church, or small group. Similar to a jigsaw puzzle cover, God sees the completed picture and how we, our church, the Church, and the world fit into it. Each has its place in the puzzle and is integral to forming the broader picture. Amidst all the other pieces, we may feel small and unable to make a difference. This type of thinking can result in apathy toward participating in what God has asked of us where He's planted us, but it is important to remember that God does not create spare pieces. We do not fight for our piece, but we fight to find our place. Just because we may not understand everything at the moment does not mean we are insignificant—God has a specific place for each piece of His grand puzzle.

God can accomplish greatness no matter who He works through—whether a lead pastor or a member of a small team that gets no public credit. If we have a willingness, God can do greatness in the smallest of places. Some of us have asked God for something, a vast dream or goal, but we can't receive it because we're never home—it's vitally important to stay faithful and be fruitful where we are planted.

"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes." (Isaiah 54:2)

Discussion Questions

- What areas of your life have grown comfortable? Where can you step out into God's vastness and receive new dreams and ideas from Him?
- Are you believing God will provide for the dreams He's placed on your heart?
- Are you trying to control certain aspects of your life instead of allowing God to provide and develop greatness in those areas? Share examples.
- How can you be a stable, dependable canvas for God to grow and birth His gifts, talents, and dreams within?

Prayer Focus

Make a list of five dreams or ideas God has given you. If you can't think of anything, ask Him to reveal areas in your life where you can focus your energy on growing and developing. Pray that He softens your heart to follow His plan and that He gives you the wisdom and boldness to continue making yourself a stable canvas for Him.

Next Steps

Identify how you can become a strong and stable vessel through which God's dreams and ideas can flow. If you would like to serve the Kingdom with a hands-on approach, try joining the Outreach team and serve on the First Saturday Serve Team. You can also attend all four steps of the Growth Track to join a Dream Team at your campus.

Leader Tips

Encourage your group members to take at least one of their dreams or ideas they feel God has given them and work on growing it with excellence and intentionality. Have them report back about their progress when you meet again.