

Rising Waters Steady Faith Discussion Questions Week Five

- 1) On page 54 of the From the Inside Out Journals, we read, “You need a new outlook. You need renewed ideas, desires, and choices—a complete rebirth of your spirit.” Pastor Aaron’s message helps us see how struggling with the belief that we do not have enough in an area of our life is a mindset that we need to renew with Christ. Romans 12:2 says, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Where do you struggle to believe you are enough or have enough in your relationship with God?
- 2) Read John 6:1-14. Pastor Aaron shares three points we can remember in Jesus’ feeding of the 5,000. First, Jesus invites the disciples and us to lean in. Do we see God as our provision in every area we struggle to believe we are enough or have enough? Second, Jesus wants the disciples and us to be honest about our vantage point. What lenses are we looking through? Social media, for example? Third, Jesus invites the disciples and us to listen to God. No one believed Jesus could feed the 5,000 with the little boy’s lunch, but Jesus did the impossible. How do you need to lean in, be honest about your perspective, and/or listen to God when you feel you are not enough or don’t have enough?
- 3) On page 56 of the From the Inside Out Journal, we learn we are invited to participate in our own slow re-creation by learning to be with Jesus, learning to be like Jesus. We are invited to be Jesus’ disciples just as the first apostles were. The important piece to remember is that, just like Jesus’ disciples woke up each day and walked with Jesus, we are invited to do the same. In Lamentations 3:22-24 we read: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” How does daily fellowship with Jesus show us we are enough and have enough in Him?
- 4) On page 58 in the From the Inside Out Journal, we learn, “God will only accomplish His work to the extent that you let Him.” In feeding the 5,000, the disciples were asked to walk the crowd and bring to Jesus what they found. John 6:9: “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” As you contemplate growth in God and Pastor Aaron’s message, what do you have that you can bring to God as an offering for Him to multiply? Is it time? Is it a talent? Is it finances? What loaves and fishes can you offer to God in love, waiting on His way and time to multiply what you give Him?
- 5) The From the Inside Out Journal, page 60, lists spiritual disciplines. Which of the disciplines have you incorporated into your life? If you haven’t, which one might you try to grow in your relationship with God? Right Now Media has a new series that teaches four disciplines. Right Now Media is a gift at Central. You can see more on Sabbath at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836782>
Prayer at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836788>
Fasting at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836794>
Solitude at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836801>
Contact Laura Garry at laura@central-lutheran.org to sign up for Right Now Media.

- 6) Is there anything that stands in the way of your love for God and love for people, as asked on page 62 of the From the Inside Out Journal? What is it? Why are you holding back? Spend time in prayer and ask God to help you surrender the obstacles or barriers.