

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Potter's Field – Michael and Pam Rozell

Questions written by Scotty James

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to give a special thanks to everyone who stepped up and volunteered to help sell books this weekend. Your service was greatly appreciated! We'll be running that booth for the next 6 weeks, so if you or your small group want to take a shift or two, let me know.

Scotty.james@therocksandiego.org. Thanks!

MEMORY VERSE

Woe to him who strives with his maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the Earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, "What are you making?"...Isaiah 45:9 NKJV

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – POTTER'S FIELD

GETTING STARTED

This week's message was done by Potter's Field Ministries. Their name is very unique, but does it have meaning? Share with the group why you think their ministry is named "Potter's Field"

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Michael is a potter, and he makes his living working with clay. Go around and share what comes to mind when you think of clay. Mention every word that you can think of that describes it.
2. In Jeremiah 18, God speaks to Israel and relates them to clay. Why do you think this is? What are some characteristics that clay and people have in common?
3. One of the reasons God may have related Israel/humans to clay is because they are both hard. Clay, by itself, is a very hard substance. When nothing is added to clay, it can be very hard to work with, and if left alone long enough, it will become as solid as rock. Humans are the same way. On our own, we are very hard creatures. We tend to justify our wrong doings and do what's best for us. Look at yourself. Is there any area in your life in which you are hardening yourself? Is there anything you know you should be doing (or not doing), but you're resisting? If some don't mind, share with the group. (We all have them)
4. Building on the above question, why are you resistant to making these changes in your life?

5. What are some things that soften clay?
6. Clay, when left alone, becomes solid rock, but when water is added to it, clay softens and become useful. Humans are the same way. On our own we are calloused and hard, but when God comes into our lives, we should become soft and useful. Have any of you had an experience where God changed you for the better? Share with your group.
7. When clay is put on the “wheel”, and the potter begins to mold it, the clay initially resists. Humans are the same way. When God puts us on His “wheel”, fills us with His Spirit, and begins to mold us, we sometimes fight it. What is the key for us to be usable by God? Is there anything we must do? Explain.
8. The key to us being softened and usable by God is for us to simply submit to Him. In that submission, there may be some action involved, but that action will come from us obeying and submitting to His plan for us. But how can we know His plan? Share your thoughts.
9. God does not always tell us everything in His plan, but we will become more familiar with what God wants from us when we set ourselves up to hear Him. This means we must spend quality time with God. Prayer, reading, and fellowship are great ways to learn what God wants from us. Can you think of any others?
10. Clay, when it is first put on the “wheel”, is dirty, ugly and useless, but with a little water and the hands of a skillful potter, the clay begins to become something beautiful. The plan for the clay belongs to the potter, not the clay. Share how this relates to us and God.
11. Just like the clay, God takes His hands and molds us and shapes us into something beautiful and functional, and it is up to Him, not us, to decide what we become. This is a process; it takes a lifetime. Is this process pleasurable or painful? Share your thoughts.
12. Being molded into what the Father wants will include both pleasure and pain. This is why faith is so vital. We have to trust that what God is doing is what is best. Be honest with yourself...if God’s plan for you differs from your desire, are you willing to submit to His plan? If someone wants to share their thoughts go ahead.

BRINGING IT HOME

1. Each and every person is something beautiful; we just have to let our Maker mold us. This week, encourage each other to give God more control your individual lives.
2. This week, prayer for each other, that you all would give God more control, so that He can make you into something beautiful.