

Key Takeaway

In Christ, we are boundless - not limited by our past, our prejudices, our intellectual capacity, or our social status. Through intellectual barriers, social boundaries, and temporal limits, we discover that God's grace transcends all human boundaries and calls us to live with kingdom vision that impacts generations.



Week 3. "I am Boundless"

The Chosen, Season 1, Episodes 7 & 8, Season 2, Episode 1

Lutheran Lens

Bonhoeffer's "Life Together"

Jesus, the son of God, came and died for our sins. Hallelujah! Acts 1 promises that Christ will come again, but it's been 2,000 years, so... What is he waiting for?!

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-nazi dissident during WWII, challenged the Lutheran Church to reimagine what this could mean before his execution in 1945. What if the second coming was already here? Are we not, as participants in Eucharist, all together the body of Christ? If this is the case, who can stop us? We have God's work to do!

Biblical Foundation

Supporting Scripture.

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. 13 Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles,[a] some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit ... (cont.)

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (NLT)

Different Perspective.

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place, and he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near ... (cont.) Revelation 1:1-20 (NRSV)

Dig Deeper!

Here are additional texts that show God's boundless nature:

Intellectual Boundaries Isaiah 55:8-9

Romans 11:33-36

Social Boundaries Galatians 3:26-29

Acts 10:9-48

Temporal Boundaries Acts 1:4-11

Acts 2:1-12

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Week 3. "I am Boundless"

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Small Group Discussion

Nicodemus by Night

(S1, E7) - John 3:1-21

I am boundless... beyond my own capacity; not bound to previous beliefs or behaviors.

- My Sand: What feels safe and familiar in your life right now? (Could be beliefs, habits, relationships, ways of thinking that you're comfortable with)
- 2. The Flood: What "flood" is God using to shake up your comfortable "plot of sand"? (New challenges, changing circumstances, difficult questions)
- God's Rock: What "rock" might God be inviting you to build on instead? (New perspectives, deeper trust, uncomfortable growth areas)

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

This week, notice where God might be calling you to cross a social divide - to reach out to someone different from you or step beyond your comfort zone to connect across differences. Bonus points: call up a member of your small group to reflect on this call.

CHURCH CHALLENGE

"Today's actions are tomorrow's future" - How can our church make decisions based on generational impact rather than just immediate needs or preferences?

The Samaritan Woman

(S1, E8) - John 4:1-42

I am boundless... beyond social barriers; Jesus crosses every divide to reach me.

- 1. Jesus Crosses Divides: Jesus breaks multiple social rules by talking to a Samaritan woman alone. What social, cultural, or religious divides has Jesus crossed to reach you personally?
- 2. Barriers We Build: What barriers do we create (consciously or unconsciously) that might prevent others from experiencing Jesus's love? How does Jesus challenge these?
- 3. Unexpected Messengers: The Samaritan woman becomes the first person to evangelize an entire town, despite her social status. How does Jesus use people society overlooks to carry his message across divides?

Jesus in Samaria

(S2, E1) - Acts 12:2; Luke 9:51-56

I am boundless... beyond the here and now; today's actions are tomorrow's future.

- 1. Generational Ministry: This episode shows how James and John's ministry impacts future generations. How does knowing that our actions impact future generations change how we approach faith?
- 2. Planting vs. Harvesting: The disciples plant fields they may never harvest from, trusting future generations will benefit. What are we planting now that may not bear fruit until later?
- 3. Future Faith: The episode shows Samaritans coming to faith years after the disciples' initial ministry. What "slow-growing" kingdom work might God be calling you to invest in, even without immediate results?