

Cupcakes in Little Rock

It's a bit awkward to find ourselves in this transition at Ascension of Christ, isn't it?

I believe that even our most awkward stories still have significance for our lives.

But our stories aren't significant in themselves. They're significant because they're connected to God's one big story.

In the Scriptures, God's people have always understood that they were living within a great big story being enacted by God.

"Shout with joy to God, all the earth!" (Psalm 66:1)

"Say to God, how awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you." (Psalm 66:3)

"All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing praise to your name." (Psalm 66:4)

"Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf!" (Psalm 66:5)

"He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot— come, let us rejoice in him." (Psalm 66:6)

Psalm 66 teaches us that God's story is big— it encompasses the entirety of creation.

But even though God's story is creation-wide, it still reaches every single person. No matter how small.

"Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me." (Psalm 66:16)

Everything matters if anything matters at all. Everything matters, no matter how big, no matter how small. - Pierce Pettis

As God's people here today, we must immerse ourselves into God's big story. We need to learn the answers to questions like:

1. What's already happened in God's big story?
2. What's still to come in the future?
3. Knowing the past and the future, how do we live in the present?

As your new pastor, I am looking forward to learning the stories of Ascension of Christ. Even the awkward ones. Most of all, I am looking forward to teaching you about God's big story. Our stories will find their significance in light of it.

I wanted to let the congregation know that the 9:00 Sunday morning Adult Bible study will be continuing throughout the summer.

We will continue to meet in the sanctuary. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Being in Bible study is one of the very best ways to immerse yourself into God's big story. We will talk about possible topics as we get to know one another better in the next few weeks. Please try and be a part of this discipleship opportunity here at Ascension of Christ.

**Peace,
Pastor Mark**