

July 7, 2019

Speaker: Eric Naus **Series:** God With Us **Passage:** Exodus 31:1-11

Community Group Questions: "Equipping the Called"

Read Exodus 31:1-11 aloud as a group, and then work through the following questions.

1. In verses 1-2 of this passage, we see God calling a very specific tradesman, named Bezalel, to a very specific task: supervising the building of the tabernacle, its furniture, and the garments of the priests. According to Ephesians 2:10, *every single Christian* has been called to specific good works that God prepared for us before the foundation of the world! As you analyze your life (your family, your line of work, your church, your friendships) what things has God called *you* to do? In other words, what responsibilities, tasks, roles, and good works has he uniquely assigned you to carry out?
2. Verses 3-6 list a number of things God had given Bezalel so that he could carry out his calling well. In fact, God always fully equips those he calls. Has God ever given you an assignment so big that you could only accomplish it with his strength? In that situation, how did God fully equip you to carry out that calling?
3. Bezalel was given the Holy Spirit's power (see verse 3). He was also given natural ability, skill, intelligence, and training (see verses 3-6). How does the Spirit's power and our "natural abilities" work together in our lives as we live for God? What natural abilities has God gifted you with, and how have you seen God's Spirit empower those gifts?
4. Bezalel was an everyday craftsman who was given a supremely important work for God. Do you think most Christians think their everyday work matters to God? What does this story teach us about the value God places on "everyday work"? Do you believe your work matters? How can we see every line of work as "sacred" unto God? (see Colossians 3:23-24)
5. Bezalel was not alone. He was given a lead assistant (see vs. 6a), as well as other "able" people to help with the work (see 6b as well as Exodus 36:1). Why is it so important to carry out our callings in the company of others, rather than all alone? In your life, can you think of someone who has significantly partnered with and encouraged you in the accomplishment of your callings? Share the story.

Prayer suggestion: Spend time thanking God for his calling, his Spirit, for the natural abilities he's given us to steward for his glory. Pray for one another in your unique line of work, that you can work for the glory of God!