

## Overwhelmed by God: Lessons from a Brazilian Prison, Part II

Series: Overwhelmed

August 22, 2010

Lessons from Part One (last week, August 15)

1. Those who are with us
2. The grave consequences of sin.
3. Someone must tell them.
4. The Life changing Power of the Holy Spirit
5. Power of the Gospel to reconcile.
6. You don't have to have a lot to be generous.
7. People recognize a heart of compassion.

### Scripture

#### 1 Cor. 6:9-11

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

#### Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21**to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

#### Matthew 25:31-40

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. **32**All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. **33**He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

**34**"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. **35**For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, **36**I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

**37**"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? **38**When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? **39**When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

**40**"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

### Engage

Here is a question to get us thinking. Has God ever called anyone to do anything the person is not qualified to do? What is the most unlikely calling you have ever read about or experienced?

## Discuss

1. Read Ephesians 3:20. When is a time God has done more than you ever asked or imagined.
2. Lesson #9 is this: "Serving God is a privilege and not an entitlement." In what ways can we see service as an entitlement? Have you ever seen this in the news or in life? What mental errors get a person to this place? Are we in any danger of it?
3. Galatians 5:13 says "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love." What do you think it means to serve one another?
4. We know that God can use anyone He chooses. Is God more likely to use people over-qualified or under? Why do you think this is? Disturbing isn't it? (Because He may call us!)
5. Lesson #10 is that "God activity isn't confined to a church building." In Matthew 5:14 we are encouraged to let people see your good works and glorify your father in heaven. In what ways are we letting our light shine before men?

Review names of people that are on our "Impact List". Last year when Westwood did the study of evangelism, members were encouraged to place names of people on a list. By doing so, our intention is to make an impact on their lives by praying for them, asking God to reach them, and looking for opportunities to invest in their lives spiritually.

Stop and have prayer for these people. Review ways we might possibly impact their lives.

6. Lesson #12 is "Freedom in Christ". What type of freedom do we have in Christ? How does that affect our lives?

## Challenge

What is the Holy Spirit challenging you to do as a result of today's study?