



Part 2

*His Ways*

May 7, 2017

**ICEBREAKER:** What creation or what action makes you realize how big God's mind is? (ie-solar system, great barrier reef, the human eye, our capacity to love and forgive, His capacity to love and forgive, etc)

**MAIN POINT:**

**You Can't DO what God wants you to DO  
Unless you begin to THINK what God THINKS**

**EXPLORATION:**

1. **Read Isaiah 55: 8-9. (Review from last week) What do you think this passage means? How have you seen that God's thoughts and ways are above and beyond our thoughts and ways?**

*(Context Clues- The word "ways" means really everything about what you do. The word "thoughts" means really everything about what you think .*

**דֶּרֶךְ** [*derek /deh·rek/*]way, toward, journey, manner, direction, habit, course of life, moral character. **What You Do**

**מַחְשָׁבָה** [*machashabah, makh·ash·aw·baw/*] thought, device, purpose, work, imaginations, plan. **What You Think**

*Discuss how thoughts and ways are related.)*

2. **Read Isaiah 55:1-2. How can settling for your thoughts lead you to things that do not satisfy? How can believing in what God has for you lead you to things that satisfy completely? Relate this to the passage.**

3. **Read Ephesians 3:20. How is God able to do and think more than we are able to dream, imagine, or ask? Give an example of when this has happened in your life.**

*(Context Clues- Notice in this passage that God is able! Notice in this passage that we are not able! His capacity to come through is even greater than our capacity to ask. For fun, compare that to parenting a child that is always asking for something. Does your strength run out?).*

### **APPLICATION:**

1. **Because God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts we need to have the mind of Christ. Read I Corinthians 2:6-16. Where does this passage say that we can have the mind of Christ? And how do we get it?**

*Context Clues- 1. The mature mind pursues the Spirit v. 6 2. God reveals His thoughts through the Spirit v 10. 3. God imparts His thoughts through His Word v 13.)*

2. **Do you agree or disagree with the main point of this lesson: "You can't do what God wants you to do unless you begin to think what God wants you to think" Relate this to the passage above.**

3. **Have everyone answer the following question and tell why you answered that way: *I operate according to God's thoughts and ways instead of my thoughts and ways:***

- A. Most of the time
- B. Some of the time
- C. Rarely
- D. Never

4. **Pray for the series Above and Beyond. Pray that as a church we would seek God's thoughts and ways and not settle for our own thoughts and ways.**