



6 August 2017 – Ps Mike Griffiths From Good to Great

1. From Should to Must

We all have times when we feel a stone's throw away from the promised land, when life is okay but not spectacular. When we cannot complain, but we do anyway. When things are going 60%, but we are not happy with 60%! When our good ideas do not quite make it into daily practice.

Israel was liberated from generational poverty, servitude, abuse and in the wilderness seeing God's grace towards them every day. It's all provided, food, clothes, but it is still the desert, it is not the dream. Numbers 13:30 *"Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." They should...but they did not!*

Many people today die in their *shoulds*? Things they should've said, businesses they should've started, books they should've written, places they should've visited, loved ones they should've loved, songs they should've written, people they should've shared the gospel with, etc.

They need to change their '*shoulds*' to '*musts*.' Deuteronomy 31:7 *"Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance."*

Like Israel, when we move from should to must, we need to step up to a different level of commitment, resourcefulness and courage. Imagine if all your *shoulds* became *musts*, and you went and did them. How that would feel, what would it look like? Can you feel the sense of achievement? Can you see the smile on God's face looking at you fulfill the desires, the possibilities He put into your heart and mind?

2. Discussion Points

- Ask your LifeGroup members to talk about dreams or visions that they have but not yet seen them happen. Ask them to share why they think these things have not happened.
- Why do we find it easier to settle for second best, like Israel, rather than pursuing our Promised Land?
- Why should we not settle for second best? What is the impact on ourselves, our families, our finances, our careers, our self-esteem when we live just average lives?
- What practical ways can we increase the level of our commitment, resourcefulness and courage? What important decisions do we need to make to achieve God's plan for our lives?

3. Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me to never settle for second best but give me the commitment, courage and resourcefulness to pursue all that you have planned for me. Amen