



IMAGINATION: *WHAT IF*

Faith is an act of the imagination. And a healthy, vibrant imagination is crucial to the Christian life. Imagination is not the opposite of reality or the enemy of truth. Our problem is not an overactive imagination. The real threat is a lack of imagination, or an imagination stunted or misshaped by our experience. Some of us are stuck in “*if only*” living marked by regret, feelings of guilt, fear, and doubt. But God can turn your “*if only*” mindset into a “*what if*” attitude, where your faith looks forward to the future with holy confidence. The Bible calls us to adopt an active imagination that helps us look beyond our experience like those who modeled a fearless faith before us!

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

IMAGINATION: *WHAT IF* – Don't Just Do Something, Stand There!

God has a plan for your life! To find it, requires imagination – transforming your *if only* regrets into *what if* possibilities.

August 31, 2023

Bible Verses: Philippians 2:13 (ESV) Psalm 22: 1-2, 22-24 (ESV) Ecclesiastes 7:20 (ESV)

Music: Zach Williams – There Was Jesus - <https://youtu.be/oa997xkppAE>

Resources

Book: IF – Trading Your IF ONLY Regrets for God's WHAT IF Possibilities by Mark Batterson.

Book: IMAGINATION REDEEMED – Glorifying God with a Neglected Part of Your Mind by Gene Veith, Jr.

IMAGINATION: *What If* – Don't Just Do Something, Stand There!

1. In your life, what have you built without permission?

Lyric: When the life I built came crashing to the ground.

Verse: for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13 (ESV)

2. Where have you falsely accused God of abandonment?

Lyric: Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it, there was Jesus.

Verse: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,

and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. Psalm 22: 1-2, 22-24 (ESV)

3. Have you accepted your god-given limitations?

Lyric: For this man who needs amazing kind of grace. For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay.

Verse: Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins. Ecclesiastes 7:20 (ESV)

"There Was Jesus"

By Zach Williams

<p>Every time I tried to make it on my own Every time I tried to stand and start to fall And all those lonely roads that I have travelled on There was Jesus When the life I built came crashing to the ground When the friends I had were nowhere to be found I couldn't see it then but I can see it now There was Jesus In the waiting, in the searching In the healing and the hurting Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces Every minute, every moment</p>	<p>Where I've been and where I'm going Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it There was Jesus For this man who needs amazing kind of grace (Mmm) For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay (Mmm) I'm not perfect so I thank God every day There was Jesus (There was Jesus) In the waiting, in the searching In the healing and the hurting Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces Every minute, every moment Where I've been and where I'm going Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it There was Jesus</p>	<p>On the mountain, in the valleys (There was Jesus) In the shadows of the alleys (There was Jesus) In the fire, in the flood (There was Jesus) Always is and always was No I never walk alone (Never walk alone) You are always there In the waiting, in the searching In the healing and the hurting Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces Every minute (Every minute), every moment (Every moment) Where I've been and where I'm going Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it There was Jesus There was Jesus There was Jesus There was Jesus</p>
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