Pastor JD: "God will do everything and stop at nothing to create the environment so that I'm in His will."

During your small group time, choose one question from each category so that you're not missing any one topic if time runs out. Then go back and choose another from each category.

God's Will

God is allowing everything that is happening in the world right now-even and especially the chaos-to fulfill His ultimate plan. He has established the bounds of our habitation (Acts 17:26). In that case, it was exactly in God's will that you be born and actively serve His kingdom right now in the final days of His calendar.

- 1) Most believers find God's will to be an elusive goal. Why is it important, in these final days, that you identify God's will for your life?
- 2) Even in adversity, can we still be walking in God's will?
- 3) Briefly share a time when you knew in your spirit that God was leading you to do something that made no sense humanly speaking.

Renewing of the Mind

Romans 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Pastor JD said that when we have purity of thought, then actions follow. So the only way we will not be conformed to this world is by having our minds renewed.

- 1) If there's ever been a time when we can't, absolutely can't look and act like the world, it's now. 1) What are some ways in our current evil-is-called-good world that we must be nonconformists? 2) How can we look different?
- 2) 1) How is the world attempting to brainwash us? 2) Discuss some ways we can be intentional about "washing our brains"?
- 3) We're so careful about what we allow into our bodies, but not our minds. What am I allowing into my mind that is contrary to the Philippians 4:8 list?

Our Obedience

God fosters the circumstances for our obedience, so knowing that God is working behind the scenes to help us obey brings us peace and allows us to trust and follow even when it appears to make no sense. Fact: When I decide to obey, the Holy Spirit activates and empowers me.

1) God's commands are God's enablings. God will never command us to do anything that He will not also enable us by the Spirit to do. Have your feelings of inadequacy ever prevented you from stepping out in faith?

- 2) Pastor JD posed these questions: How often do I say I'm waiting on the Lord and what if the Lord right now is waiting on me? Now consider this: Is there something you know He is calling you to do, but you're still "praying about it"?
- 3) JD said the one thing we can give God is our obedience. How can our obedience be a gift to God?

Bonus Question:

1) The example was used of trying to get an object out of your kids' hands to give them something better. 1) Here at the end as we wait for the rapture, what is God trying to pry from your hands? Besides worldly things, consider emotions like fear, anger, and bitterness. 2) Have these past few years loosened the grip you have on this world?

Remember JD's three-step program: I can't. He can. Let Him.