

GAME PLAN:

A WINNING STRATEGY FOR FINDING HOPE

WEEK 5

SERMON
DISCUSSION
GUIDE

01

ONE-MINUTE RECAP

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BECOME DISILLUSIONED WITH GOD? LIFE IS HARD, AND WE OFTEN WONDER HOW A LOVING GOD CAN ALLOW JUST PAINFUL THINGS TO HAPPEN. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS THEME TODAY.

Q/A

- DO YOU THINK THAT PAIN AND LOVE CAN EXIST AT THE SAME TIME? WHY OR WHY NOT?
- IN YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE, HAS GOD FELT CLOSER OR FURTHER AWAY WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN IN SEASONS OF PAIN?

READ OUTLOUD

X ROMANS 8:35, 37-39

WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST? SHALL TRIBULATION, OR DISTRESS, OR PERSECUTION, OR FAMINE, OR NAKEDNESS, OR DANGER, OR SWORD?

NO, IN ALL THESE THINGS, WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM WHO LOVED US, FOR I AM SURE THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NOR ANGELS NOR RULERS, NOR THINGS PRESENT NOR THINGS TO COME, NOR POWERS, NOR HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.

02

03

REFLECT ON IT

NO CIRCUMSTANCE CAN SEPERATE US FROM GOD'S LOVE, AND YET PAIN STILL EXISTS. HOW DO YOU RECONICLE THE TWO?

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WEEK 3

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01

PRACTICE HOLDING TENSION

THINK OF SOMETHING HARD IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW. (YOU CAN SHARE IT WITH THE GROUP OR KEEP IT TO YOURSELF.) CONTINUE THINKING OF THAT THING AS YOU READ THROUGH PSALM 47 TOGETHER.

PRAY THROUGH THESE VERSES:
PSALM 47:1, 2, 3 TOGETHER.

READING ONE VERSE AT A TIME.

- X GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE.
- X THEREFORE, WE WILL NOT FEAR THOUGH THE EARTH GIVES WAY, THOUGH THE MOUNTAINS BE MOVED INTO THE HEART OF THE SEA
- X GOD IS IN THE MIDST OF YOU; YOU SHALL NOT BE MOVED; GOD WILL HELP YOU WHEN MORNING DAWNS.

02

TELL YOURSELF TRUTH REPEAT THIS OUTLOUD

- WHATEVER TRIAL YOU HAVE IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW, GO AROUND THE ROOM IN A CIRCLE AND SAY:
 - X "GOD IS MY REFUGE AND STRENGTH. I WILL NOT FEAR BECAUSE GOD WILL HELP ME."

REPEAT THIS PHRASE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK ANYTIME THE FEAR BEGINS TO RISE AGAIN.

GAME PLAN:

A WINNING STRATEGY FOR FINDING HOPE

ALL MONTH LONG

SERMON
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GUIDE

ENGAGE



BE A SIGNPOST FOR SOMEONE WHO IS LOST

THIS MONTH LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP SOMEONE MAKE A GOOD DECISION.

SOME IDEAS FOR DOING THAT

GENEROSITY

FAITHFULNESS

- GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO ENGAGE WITH SOMEONE WHO YOU KNOW HAS A DECISION TO MAKE.
- LISTEN TO THEIR FEARS, WORRIES, AND EXCITEMENT ABOUT IT.
- ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING ENCOURAGING TO SHARE WITH THEM.
- ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT IF YOU ARE THE PERSON WHO CAN HELP THEM.
- FOLLOW UP WITH THEM IN A TEXT OR A PHONE CALL AND LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE PRAYING FOR THEM.

"A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. 35 BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER."
JOHN 13:34-35