

Chapter 1:

John: Diving into the Depths of God's Love for You Small Group Questions

How does recognizing yourself as being beloved by God impact your perspective on challenges and circumstances in your life?

How can adopting the nickname "beloved", as John encourages, influence our daily lives and interactions with others?

How does aligning our requests with the desire to glorify the Father impact the way we pray and the content of our prayers?

Consider the stories of the widow of Zarephath and Naaman the Syrian. How does their experience as Gentiles and undeserving individuals highlight the grace, goodness, and kindness of God in providing miracles?

Reflect on the statement that in the New Covenant of grace, God takes all the initiative. How does understanding God's love, forgiveness, and grace influence our ability to love, forgive, and extend grace to others?

Explore the concept of the sacrificial lamb and the divine exchange that occurred at the cross for us. What does it reveal about our standing before God and whether we would ever be judged for our sins?

Discuss the idea of embracing divine healing as a fulfilled promise through Jesus' sacrifice. How does recognizing God's love as the driving force behind this promise impact our confidence in receiving His blessings?

Use the space below to write down a prayer request that you have. If you'd like you can share it with your small group to include them in praying for you. How does John 14:13-14 help you to have confidence that God will answer your prayer?

Chapter 2:

Moses: A Story of Deliverance, Redemption, and Destiny Small Group Questions

Reflect on the significance of Moses' birth against the backdrop of the decree to kill Hebrew male infants. How does this narrative illustrate the themes of destiny and divine intervention? How does this relate to God's promises in Ephesians 1:4?

How does God's promise of abundant life (John 10:10) resonate in Moses' story, even in challenges and dangers?

Discuss the parallels between Moses' story and the life of Jesus. How do Pharaoh's orders and Moses' preservation foreshadow events in Jesus' life? What other connections do you see between Moses and Jesus?

Explore Miriam's role in the story. How does her faithfulness and quick thinking play a crucial role in God's plan for Moses? What can we learn from Miriam about being watchful and proactive in God's unfolding plan?

Reflect on the irony that Moses' mother was paid to raise her son during a decree to kill Hebrew male children. How does this showcase God's abundant provision even in adversity and challenging circumstances?

Consider Moses' years as a shepherd in Midian. How did God use this time to prepare Moses for his leadership role? What qualities and lessons did Moses acquire during his shepherding years that proved crucial in leading the Israelites?

Chapter 3:

Abraham: Journeying into God's Promises Small Group Questions

How does Hebrews 11:1 define faith, and how did Abraham exemplify these qualities in his journey?

How can we cultivate patience and trust in God's timing in our own lives, especially when waiting for His promises?

Explore instances in Abraham's story where he doubted or made mistakes. How does God's faithfulness shine through despite Abraham's imperfections? How does the concept of God's faithfulness in the New Covenant assure us today?

How can consistent exposure to the Scriptures impact our faith during challenging times?

Discuss the significance of Abram's name change to Abraham and how it reflected a transformation in his identity. In what ways can our understanding of being a "new creation" in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) impact the way we live out our faith?

Consider Abraham and Sarah's struggle with barrenness. How does God increase their faith to believe in the promises He made to them?

Chapter 4:

Ruth: Receiving a Grand Harvest in Fields of Grace Small Group Questions

In the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, Ruth placed her trust in the Lord's favor. How do challenging times help us cultivate trust and faith in God?

When faced with challenges, Ruth didn't dwell on misfortunes but took practical steps while depending on God. How do you balance taking practical steps while depending on God during tough times?

Ruth found favor in the field of Boaz while performing an ordinary task. Can you share an experience where a seemingly mundane task led to unexpected blessings or divine opportunities in your life?

The imagery of Ruth resting at Boaz's feet is connected with believers taking their place at Jesus' feet. How does this concept impact your approach to seeking help, blessings, or healing from Jesus?

Discuss the qualifications needed to be a kinsman-redeemer, as mentioned in the text. How do these qualifications parallel the role of Jesus as our heavenly redeemer?

Ruth's life transformed from lack to abundance. In what areas of your life do you need God's restoration, and how can you apply the lessons from Ruth's story?

Chapter 5:

Noah: The Floodwaters of Change, Ark of New Beginnings Small Group Questions

In what ways can we navigate and express our faith in today's world, which often mirrors the moral decay of Noah's day?

Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. What does the concept of grace mean to you? How does Noah's experience of grace parallel our understanding of grace in the New Testament?

The dimensions of the ark symbolize victory, the blood sacrifice, and grace being multiplied unto us. In what ways can the symbolism of the ark's dimensions deepen our appreciation of Christ's redemptive work?

Discuss the analogy of being in Jesus as being in the ark. How does Jesus serve as a refuge and source of peace in the storms of life? How can we, like Noah, share the assurance of salvation found in Christ with others?

Why did such a large ark have only one door, what's the message? Why was the window only placed on the top of the ark?

Reflect on the symbolism of cypress wood and pitch in the ark. How do these elements connect to the cross of Christ and the covering of sins?

The dove brought back an olive leaf, symbolizing peace. How does the dove's action foreshadow the peace found in Jesus?

Explore the significance of the ark resting on the mountains of Ararat. How does the concept of "curse reversed" resonate with the message of salvation in Christ?

Chapter 6:

Daniel: A Roaring Victory Sheltered in Protection Small Group Questions

How does Daniel's experience in the lions' den challenge your understanding of prosperity during adversity?

Have you ever faced a situation where, despite your trust in God, things seemed to get worse? How did you prosper out of the situation?

How do you view challenges and adversities in your spiritual journey?

Can you recall a time when a seemingly impossible situation turned into an opportunity for God to demonstrate His power in your life?

What did Daniel do immediately after the king's decree came? What lesson do we learn from Daniel's action when we face persecution for our faith?

What significance do you see in the fact that Jesus, was with Daniel in the lions' den? How did Jesus emerge from the Tomb and how did the lion's den foreshadow the Resurrection? How might impossible situations become opportunities for God to reveal Himself?

What impact does King Darius' proclamation in Daniel 6:25-27 have on your perception of God's sovereignty and the ultimate purpose of trials?

Chapter 7:

Paul and Silas: Cultivating Joy in Captivity Small Group Questions

The Bible mentions that “the joy of the Lord is our strength” (Nehemiah 8:10). How do Paul and Silas model this for us in prison? How might you be brought joy in the face of severe circumstances?

The story in Acts 16 emphasizes divine intervention, from the earthquake to the conversion of the jailer. In what ways have you experienced or witnessed divine intervention in your life or the lives of others?

How does faith in Christ bring a sense of spiritual freedom in your own life, especially in challenging moments?

Paul and Silas faced imprisonment as a result of following God's leading. How do you interpret the idea that following God doesn't exempt us from dark valleys but still will ultimately lead us to a place of beauty, abundance, and fulfillment in His perfect plan?

The jailer's conversion and the formation of the first church in Philippi were outcomes of Paul and Silas' persecution. Share a time when you witnessed a positive outcome arise from a challenging situation, not just for yourself but also for those around you.

In what ways does spiritual liberation pave the way for transformation in our physical conditions?

Chapter 8:

Hannah: Bountiful Grace through Barren Seasons Small Group Questions

In a culture where bearing children was highly valued, Elkanah's favoritism towards Hannah, who was barren, is unconventional. The meanings of Biblical names often carry symbolic weight. How do the meanings of Peninnah's name "jewel" and Hannah's name "grace" reflect their roles in the narrative? How might the cultural expectations of the time be reflected in these names?

Elkanah's favor toward Hannah is seen as an expression of grace. How does Elkanah's favor mirror the unmerited favor or grace that God extends to us?

Barrenness was a source of distress for Hannah, yet it became a pivotal point for God's redemptive plan. In what ways have you experienced God's redemptive power in challenging situations that seemed hopeless?

Peninnah's taunting caused Hannah deep pain, yet Hannah chose not to retaliate. How can we navigate situations of distress and pain without succumbing to bitterness or revenge? What can we learn from Hannah's response?

Hannah's belief in God's response was evident in her changed demeanor. How might the promises found in God's Word lead to a change in our outward demeanor too?

Hannah worshiped God even before her situation changed. How can we cultivate a worshipful attitude in the midst of waiting for answers to our prayers during challenging times?

Chapter 9:

Gideon: Freedom Found in Your New Identity Small Group Questions

Jesus is our qualification for God's blessings. How does understanding this truth free believers from the burden of trying to qualify themselves through their actions? How does the truth that we are qualified for blessings through Jesus Christ challenge our feelings of unworthiness?

Reflect on the shift from living under the burden of the Law to living in God's grace through faith in Jesus. How does this shift impact your daily life and your relationship with God?

Consider Gideon's transformation from a fearful man to a mighty warrior. How does Jesus give us a new identity, calling us to the life that is His?

Gideon is confused by God's actions of freeing His people from Egyptian slavery only to be impoverished later by the Midianites. What is the truth Gideon will discover about how we are victorious over our enemies?

Consider the command for Gideon to go in the strength he has. How can believers today rest in the strength of Christ in the face of challenges and opposition?

Reflect on the understanding of God's favor, as seen in Gideon's request for a sign. How does 1 Corinthians 1:30 assure believers of God's favor, and how can this impact your confidence in approaching God?

How can acknowledging our weaknesses and relying on God's strength lead to greater manifestations of His glory in our lives? Think about how God whittled down Gideon's army to 300.

Consider the triumph already secured in Jesus' name. How does embracing this victory by faith impact your approach to challenges and uncertainties?

Your triumph in Christ can draw others to the incredible grace of God. Share instances where someone's faith affected your life.

Chapter 10:

Joseph: Resilient Rise led in God's favor Small Group Questions

How do Joseph's early challenges illustrate the concept that hardships can be used by God for a greater purpose in our lives?

Discuss the symbolic significance of Joseph's ornate robe and its contrast with the eternal robes mentioned in Isaiah 61:9-10. How does this symbolism apply to our identity in Christ?

How does God's redemptive plan play out in the midst of Joseph being sold into slavery by his brothers? What past hardships have led to future successes in your life?

How can recognizing God's favor in adversity impact our perspective during difficult times? Reflect on the time when Joseph was in jail for an additional two years after interpreting the two prisoners' dreams.

Reflect on the significance of Joseph's gift of dream interpretation and how it played a role in God's timing for both Joseph and the nation of Egypt. For what reason might God place us in challenging situations, armed with the unique gifts He has bestowed upon us?

Explore Joseph's response to his brothers when he reveals his identity. How does Joseph's forgiveness align with God's plan for reconciliation? How can we apply this principle in our relationships?

Reflect on the concluding statement about success in Genesis 50:20. How does being in Christ bring blessings even in challenging times, and how can our lives be a testimony for others seeking everlasting life?

Chapter 11:

Job: Restorative Grace that Supplies Abundance Small Group Questions

How might you have reacted if you received multiple pieces of devastating news in quick succession, as Job did? Who might you seek counsel/ministering from?

Why do you think many people's first inclination is to believe like Job that God was responsible for taking from them? What was Elihu's response to Job's incorrect theology (Job 34:10)?

How might our perception of God's character and His promises of restoration to us influence our response to adversity?

Why do you think Job expressed a desire for a mediator (Job 9:33)? How does this relate to our need for Jesus as a mediator in our lives?

In what ways can we serve as messengers of grace to those facing challenges?

What does Job's story teach us about the timing of restoration? Why is it significant that his fortunes were restored after he prayed for his friends?

Reflect on the idea of much more restoration. How does this concept align with God's nature as revealed in the Bible? Can you think of any others in the Bible who experienced the Lord's restoration?

In what ways have you experienced the devastating effects of locusts attacking your life? In what specific areas of your life do you currently need to trust in God's restoration, and how can the group pray for and encourage you like Elihu did for Job?

Chapter 12:

Barnabas: Nurturing Growth through Encouragement in Christ Small Group Questions

What does it mean to recognize and embrace the abundance of God's grace in our lives? How might this recognition lead us to be a Barnabas (encourager) to someone else?

Reflect on a time when someone believed in your potential and offered you a second chance. How did this impact your life?

Have you ever encountered a disagreement similar to the one Paul and Barnabas had? Did your situation turn out differently? What lessons have you learned as a result? Do you think Paul and Barnabas would have changed anything about the way they handled the disagreement that they had about John Mark?

Paul and Barnabas went their separate ways but both were used by God. How might this influence future disagreements we might have with others to know that God might be leading us down different paths in our lives?

Galatians 6:2 encourages us to "carry each other's burdens." How can we create an environment where individuals feel safe sharing their burdens?

Why might encouragement be exactly what we need to step forward by faith into the things God is calling us to do? Look for someone to encourage this week. Share a time when either you encouraged someone else or were encouraged by another.