

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

This study guide is meant to help you learn and apply the truths of Scripture to your life right now, both individually and with your community group. To get the most from these guides, work through it on your own before gathering with your community group. If you aren't in a community group, consider attending the next Starting Point at Mercy Church, where you can take the next steps to connect with a community group in your area. RSVP at mercycharlotte.com/connect.

For Our Good: The Life of Joseph - Part 6 The Secret Weapon of the Christian Life

INTRODUCTION

This week we looked at God's faithfulness to keep His promises. God was faithful to preserve His people by raising up Joseph during the famine. God was faithful to one day bring Israel out of the land of Egypt and lead them to the Promised Land. God was especially faithful in sending His Son to redeem us. God is a covenant keeping God who is worthy of our trust. As you engage in discussion with your group, be aware of any practical steps you can take in trusting our God who is always faithful!

STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What stood out to you in this week's sermon?
2. Was there anything that you heard that you had never heard before?
3. When you think of the word "faith" what comes to mind?

INVESTIGATING SCRIPTURE

A good way to study the Bible is by using three steps: Observation, Interpretation, and Application. We want to observe the passage first to get an idea of what is happening. Then we interpret the meaning of the passage so that we can apply it to our lives. The following questions will follow this pattern as we look through this Biblical passage.

Scripture: Read Genesis 50:15-26; Hebrews 11:1-2,22

Observation

1. Why are Joseph's brothers afraid of Joseph?
2. According to Joseph, why did God bring Him to Egypt?

Interpretation

1. Why is it important that Joseph says "am I in the place of God?"
2. At the end of his life, what event does Joseph point to in faith?
3. How do these final two scenes in Joseph's life display the same faith that has sustained him throughout?

Application

1. Joseph's faith regularly pushed him to take action that required complete dependence on God. What area of your life do you sense you need to take a step of faith that will require total dependence on God to provide for you?
2. We only follow God in the big moments if we follow him in the everyday moments. What are some ways you can take everyday steps to put your trust in the Lord?

PRAYER

Prayer is an essential component of your life as a follower of Christ, and an integral part of any healthy church body. Divide up into groups of 2-3 people and use the following points to guide you through a time of prayer together.

Psalm 62:6-8 - *“He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.”*

God alone is our refuge and strength in this life. We trust in Him alone at all times. He is the only one worthy of our trust and hope. With this hope in mind pray for:

1. Your Community Group Members to put their full trust in the Lord, regardless of circumstances.
2. Worry and fear to be replaced with God’s peace.
3. Those who we have been praying for in “My 3” to come to trust God as their rock and salvation.