LEADER GUIDE

MAY 5&6, 2018

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

MAIN IDEA

Do not give up on what God has for you or what he has put in front of you.

WELCOME 10 MINUTES

This question is not a poll. It's meant to give people the space to talk about what they liked and reflect on how it might have changed how they looked at something. It is also a great opportunity to talk it up to any group members that weren't able to attend most or any of the weeks.

WORSHIP 10 MINUTES

This might seem awkward to sit in silence for five minutes, but I've found it can be enriching if it is set up correctly by the leader. Instruct everyone to take the five minutes of silence and set a timer so that you don't have to keep looking at the clock. If there is space in the house or outside, that might be a good option for people to spread out. Call everyone back together after the five minutes.

WORD 30 MINUTES

1. The context of this passage is about the rejection of Jesus' invitation by the rich young ruler. Jesus is asking an "impossible" thing of the rich young ruler but calls his followers into faith. Chasms that seem impossible for someone to cross, or a salvation that seems like it'll never happen, becomes possible when we follow God's calling in trusting obedience.

2. Some people will have dealt with suffering like the loss of a loved one, a struggle with sin, or perhaps letting go of a man-made dream to grab ahold of a God-give dream. Be sensitive to the different ways people have walked through suffering; don't feel the need to give an answer or reason for suffering. Let people be honest with where they are at.

3. Again, don't dismiss people's suffering; but if you tell a story about how this passage has been lived out in your life, it could be a strong testimony of the work of God in your life.

5. Notice the difference between faith that God exists and faith in God. It's like how all the disciples believed in Jesus, but Peter put his faith into action when he walked on water. Stepping in a direction where the outcome isn't guaranteed takes courage.

6. Examples like prayer and Bible reading are good; but include details like how you pray, when you pray, what scriptures you read, etc. Asking friends for prayer or encouragement, write our calling or goal in a journal, or staying reminded of how God has been faithful are also other examples of how to return to confidence in what we hope for.

WORKS 10 MINUTES

2. Serve Days this week! Get in the game, lead by example, invite people to serve alongside of you.

Biblical Passages from the sermon:

Philippians 2:5-7, Matthew 23:11, Luke 8:17, Romans 5:2-5, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Hebrews 11:1