



**WEEK** Jan 16 – 22

### **MAIN IDEA**

God has designed us for reliance (or faith) in him.

### **CHECK IN (HIGHS & LOWS)** 15 min

A great, quick way to catch the highlights of what is happening in the lives of the people in your group is to take turns quickly sharing the “highs & lows” of your week. High: What was the highlight of your week? Low: What was the low point of your week?

### **SETTLE IN (ICE BREAKER)** 10 min

1. In what area of your life is it hardest for you to trust God? Be honest!

### **DIG IN (UNDERSTANDING)** 15 min

1. Read Nehemiah 2:1-4. What were the feelings and responses Nehemiah had before the king?
2. Can you relate to those feelings and responses in the face of a huge burden? Describe a time you had a similar experience.
3. Read Nehemiah 2:5-9. What do you notice about how Nehemiah made his request known and how he answered the king and queen’s questions?
4. Notice the end of verse 8. Sometimes God’s grace is manifested in someone else’s response or action. What were some of those surprising responses or actions in the way the king and queen responded to Nehemiah?

5. Have you ever seen God’s gracious hand on you through how someone responded or acted toward you?
6. Read Romans 1:17. What does this verse mean? What implications does it have for how we ought to live?
7. Read Hebrews 11:1. This is the biblical definition of faith, and it applies in every faith circumstance. Whether you know this definition by heart or this is the first time you’ve heard it, how are you living in faith in this season?

### **GEAR UP (APPLICATION)** 20 min

1. If you could do anything for the kingdom and knew God wouldn’t let you fail, what would you attempt?
2. Sometimes our dreams for how God can use us are too small because we look at our limitations and circumstances instead of his mighty power. Whether it’s a giant step of faith, just stepping outside your comfort zone, or continuing something in faithfulness, what step of faith could you take this week?

### **STEP UP (HOMEWORK)** 5 min

1. Where are you practicing the spiritual rhythm of daily devotionals? Talk about as a group how each of you plan on being in God’s Word and allowing your faith to be strengthened through regular time with the Lord.