



GRACE GROUP LEADER'S MESSAGE GUIDE

Leader note: This Message Guide is intended to help you facilitate discussion with your Grace Group. You can use the guide exactly as it is, ignore some of it, or add to it. We hope you view this guide as a flexible teaching tool, and not a rigid teaching task.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 3RD

Please review the Updates and Leader Information found on the Group Resources page gracefellowship.cc/groupresources. You will find some new information there that you'll want to be aware of.

ICEBREAKER

Finish the sentence: One thing I think will become obsolete in 10 years is _____.

WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO BY DANIEL RENNER

HURT HAPPENS - WEEK 4 (Scripture: Psalm 13)

1. Read Psalm 13. Have you ever been forgotten by someone who was supposed to pick you up? How did you feel? What were you thinking?
2. There's three stages to David's uphill prayer; anguish, petition and praise. Which one resonates with you?
3. Have you ever felt anger or despair like David does here? For how long? How did you pray during that time?
4. When has God's goodness been most real to you?
5. Why is it that when we're in the midst of hurt or despair, we think that we're the center of everything?
6. In the weekend message it was said, "I will worship God *no matter* what happens in my life." Do we honestly feel that way? If so, do we feel that way all the time?
7. How hard is it to praise God when we're in the midst of hurt?
8. Do we have to feel like worshipping or praising God in order to do it? (Hebrews 13:15)
9. The scriptures would point us to a place of complete, 100%, total trust in God, no matter what our circumstances are, good or bad. What will it take for you to get to that place? As a group read these scriptures to each other: Proverbs 3:5-6, Psalm 37:4-5, Isaiah 12:2, Psalm 9:10, Psalm 56:3, Jeremiah 17:7, Proverbs 29:25.
10. Which of the four messages in this series was hardest (or easiest) for you to deal with?
 1. Say your hurts out loud
 2. Get care and counseling
 3. Look to the hope of heaven
 4. No matter what, God is the center of everything

ACTION STEP

The action step out of the weekend message was to engage the songs at the end of the worship service.

SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER

Small group pioneer Randall Neighbor says this: "The shepherd never says, 'I will tend the flock on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.' No! The shepherd lives with the flock, sleeps in the fields with the flock, goes into treacherous situations to find a lost sheep, and carries the lambs in his arms. The shepherd is the first one to go into the 'valley of the shadow of death' in order to lead sheep to 'green pastures.'"