

GENESIS STUDY QUESTIONS

August 16, 2009

Lamentations 3:21-27

LEADER PREPARATION

Question to be answered: "As a Christ-follower, where is my hope?"

The Big Idea: God's faithfulness is our promise of hope.

Leaders: In this study the discussion will center on how we find hope in the midst of our struggles. Please note that this hope is offered to believers who have a living relationship with Jesus Christ.

Getting Started

How do you usually respond to a traffic jam?

On a scale from 1-5, how patient are you? (1 means not patient, 5 means extremely patient),

Digging Deeper

The book of Lamentations recalls some of the worst moments in Israel's history after God judged the nation. Review Lamentations 3:21-27.

How does the author of Lamentations respond to the devastation of his people and country?

He remembers his troubles, yet has hope that God will make things right, because he has in the past! (v.21, 22, 26)

Read Lamentation 4:48. How do your moments of hopelessness compare with what you've just read?

Read Psalm 130. Where does the Psalmist find hope during his greatest moments of hopelessness?

If you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you too can place your hope in God's faithfulness and unfailing love.

What do you think it means to place your hope in the word of the Lord (v.5)?

Today, we can place our hope in God's word by continually reading His word, and having faith in its promises.

Why do you believe the psalmist repeated the phrase in verse 6? What do you think it means to wait for the Lord more than a watchman who waits for the morning?

Waiting for the Lord requires an acceptance of God's will and timing. Have you seen God's promises fulfilled in your life, but in different timing than you had expected? If so, share it with the group.

Application

What is one thing you can do this week to remind yourself to place your hope in God's faithfulness?

Encourage your group to brainstorm different ideas. Memorizing verses, praying in moments of despair, or immersing your self in a faith community are all great ways to foster this hope.

CHALLENGE!

Memorize Lamentations 3:21-23:

*Yet this I call to mind
And therefore I have hope:
Because of the Lord's great love we are
Not consumed,
For his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
Great is your faithfulness!*