



STUDY GUIDE

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[set up]

Have you ever experienced a time in your life where everything seemed to be going really well, then tragedy hit? Share it with the group.

When was the time you felt God closest to you? When have you felt distant from God?

[digging deeper]

Pastor Josh talked about how God still does miracles today. Many people think miracles have to be outside of the natural realm, but the Bible shows us that is not true. A miracle is an unusual outward sign that confirms a message from God. The purpose is not merely to inspire “wonder” but as a “sign” to draw people to God. The goal is not to make you say “That was cool!” but to make you say “God is good.” Have you ever experienced a miracle in your life? It could be supernatural or natural.

God is just, but it is difficult to wait on His justice. Read Isaiah 61:8, Psalm 9:7-8, Deuteronomy 10:18, and Romans 12:19. How does the justice of God change the way we respond to being mistreated?

What is the role of the Christian in seeking justice for the oppressed, weak, poor, and marginalized?

God says prayer works. Jesus prayed for us. Read John 17 together. Why do you think Jesus prayed so much? What does that say about the importance of personal times of prayer?

The Word of God keeps increasing and multiplying. It is freeing to know that this depends on God, not man. But God invites His people into the joy of doing His work and increasing the Word of God. Have you ever thought about going on one of CVC’s mission trips? If you have been on one, share with the group how it has impacted your life. If not, why not consider it for next summer?

Jesus’ humble life, His gruesome death, unexpected resurrection, and future coming are the tools God uses to increase and multiply His Word. Focusing on the gospel is how our lives are slowly formed into the image of Christ. How does meditating on the gospel change the way we think about world events? Since God is moving history toward an end, how does that change our outlook on our nation and our world?

[living it out]

Have you as a LifeGroup thought about serving people in need? There are many opportunities throughout Cleveland to serve those in need. For suggestions, check out the Missional Living Guide (available at CVC's Info Desk or on our website:

<http://www.cvconline.org/local-regional/>). Why not appoint one person in your group to investigate opportunities to serve in a place of need?