



Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- 1 Have you ever had a non-Christian ask you, “Why did God allow _____ to happen?” How did you respond?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

Create Context (5 min):

1. Watch the weekly sermon recap video [HERE](#).

Study & Discussion (25 min)

- 2 Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Genesis 15:13. God made promises to Abraham about the future of his family. How were some of these promises fulfilled in the book of Exodus? How were some of these promises fulfilled later in Scripture?
- 3 Read Genesis 45:4-8 and 1 Samuel 2:1-6. How did Joseph and Hannah view the sovereignty of God, even in the midst of their own difficult circumstances? How should this influence the way we think about God’s power and His character today?
- 4 Reading Scripture today, we have the benefit of being able to see the whole story. For characters in the Bible, they often did not know what God was doing in and through their suffering and their circumstances during their lifetime.
 - What are some examples in Scripture where Biblical figures chose to trust in God, even though they couldn’t see the whole picture of what He was doing? Name some examples and explain your answer. (Examples could include Daniel, Jeremiah, Esther, and Stephen (there are many more!))
 - What are some examples in Scripture where Biblical figures chose not to trust God, because they could not see the whole picture of what He was doing? What can we learn from these examples?
- 5 Joe said in his sermon, “We (can be tempted to) create in our minds a God that we want, that meets our requirements and standards.” How can we guard against creating an idolatrous image of God that aligns with our personal preferences instead of what Scripture tells us about what God is like? For additional context about God’s character in Scripture, consult Exodus 34:6-7, Isaiah 42:1-4, Amos 5:4-7, 24 and 2 Peter 3:9 (feel free to reference other passages too).



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- The Gospel Coalition - “The Sovereignty of God” by John Frame - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-sovereignty-of-god/>
- The Gospel Coalition - “God’s Sovereignty Brings Hope in Despair” by Andrea Thom - <https://ca.thegospelcoalition.org/article/gods-sovereignty-brings-hope-in-despair/>
- Apps for memorizing Scripture
- Resources for Memorizing Scripture:
 - Desiring God - “Why Memorize Scripture?” by John Piper - <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/why-memorize-scripture>
 - “Verses” Bible Memorization Tool - <https://www.getverses.com/>
 - “Bible Memory” Memorization Tool - <https://biblememory.com/>

APPLY (30 MIN)

CVC’s Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup says under the “Living Truth” section that “LifeGroups use the Bible as their primary study tool.” One of the ways we accomplish this is through memorizing Scripture.

- Have you ever memorized Scripture before, in childhood or adulthood? Why or why not?
- What does Scripture memorization look like in your life right now?
- Where do you have room to grow in this area?

Side Note - In the “Additional Resources” section of this study guide (above), there are some resources designed to help you learn about (1) why Christians should memorize Bible passages, and (2) how you can start memorizing Scripture today.

PRAY (15 MIN)

During your time of study and application, there may be prayers that rise to the surface for individuals or the group. Take those things collectively to the Lord in prayer. We would also encourage your group to make a list of people that you are praying for to trust Jesus as the leader and forgiver of their life. Pray for the list often and hold one another accountable to share the good news as the Holy Spirit provides and prompts.



Cuyahoga
Valley Church

EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 11.12.23

Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

More information on each item can be found by scanning the QR codes.

CVC YOUNG ADULTS

Thanksgiving Potluck: November 14 - 6pm

CVC Young Adult ministry is hosting their annual Thanksgiving Potluck dinner at CVC Broadview Heights Campus. This will be a time of great food, fellowship, and of course fun! This is a great opportunity to come together, share a meal together, and invite a friend too! If you do plan on attending, please bring a dish to share with everyone.

Men's Retreat: November 17-18 // Stony Glen Camp

You are invited to an invigorating and memorable time at the 2023 Men's Ministry Retreat. The Stony Glen Camp and Christ-centered fellowship make for one of the highlights of the year. You won't be disappointed. Bring a friend and expect to make some new friends. Cost is \$50, and includes lodging and meals.



CVC YOUTH

Impact Fall Retreat: November 17-19

All high-school students are invited to bring a Bible, a cozy blanket, and their favorite game for this short weekend away. Students can expect to dive deep into the Bible to learn more about how God intends for us to understand His Word. Registration is now open [HERE](#).



SAVE-THE-DATES

CVC Youth Ice Skating: December 10th

CVC Men's Christmas Party: December 13th