Week 5: The Road Ahead

Discussion Guide

***Begin your time together with prayer***

Introduction

Take some intentional time to discuss how you were able to prioritize spending time alone in prayer this week. How did that go?

This week we will be discussing be confident in the future because God is trustworthy and faithful.

Connect

* Do you like surprises or would you rather know what’s coming?
* Have you ever had something go completely different than you planned, but it worked out in a good way?

Opening

The future often feels uncertain and sometimes that uncertainty can cause us to worry. Maybe there’s something we’re afraid of going through or maybe we just aren’t sure what’s happening in our lives at the moment. In those times, God invites us to remember who he is, what he’s done, and to keep trusting him no matter what comes our way. Even when life doesn’t play out the way we might expect, he has a way of leading His people in the best direction.

This leads us to our **main idea for this week**

**We can trust God even when the future is uncertain.**

Unpack

Read each set of verses out loud as a group, making observations as you go. Afterward discuss each of the connected questions before moving to the next set of verses:

**Read**

Luke 12:24-32

* What are some reasons why people might be worried about what’s going on in their lives? How many of these are present in your own life?
* What are some good things that God has done in your life this year?
  + What helps you remember what God has done in your life?
* Why do you think it can be difficult to trust God sometimes?

**Read**

1 Peter 1:3-7

Romans 8:35-39

* What stands out to you about the verses we just read?
* How often do you remind yourself of God’s love for you?
  + How can remembering God’s love for us cause us to trust in him and his plan more?
* Why do you think it’s important for us to go through trials? How could this help us trust him more?
* What is something in your life right now that you are having a tough time trusting God with?

Action Step

***Remind yourself of God’s love each day this week***   
***and choose one area of your future to trust him with.***

* This isn’t an easy thing to do all the time, especially when we’re really worried about it. What would it look like to fully trust that God is going to take care of it and follow his guidance about this situation?
* Prayer is important for this process. Pray through this regularly throughout your week.
* Remember that sometimes God answers us in ways we don’t expect or with answers we disagree with. Part of committing ourselves to trusting God is believing that his way is better than ours and submitting ourselves to what he says.

Closing

Sometimes the future can feel uncertain, which can cause us to worry about out lives. It is in times like these that God calls us to remember who he is, what he has done for us, and to trust him no matter what life throws at us. While the future can feel unclear, God has a way of leading his people in the best ways, even though sometimes our lives or circumstances turn out how don’t expect them to. This week let’s try to refocus and remind ourselves about who God is, what he is doing, and why he is trustworthy, then put our hope and reliance in him.

Pray Together

Pray for the Missionary Focus this week, then take prayer requests from your group and conclude your time in prayer for your group.

Missionary Focus

**Pat and Beth Andrews**

Pat serves with Seed Company, a subsidiary of Wycliffe Bible Translators, as Director of Field Projects for the Pacific Region and as a Translation Consultant.

Prayer Requests:

* For continued safety when visiting project teams
* For God’s word to continue to prevail over translation obstacles

**Spend a few minutes in prayer for The Andrews**

Reflection Verse for the Week:

\*Read this verse, then encourage the practice of reflection and memorization through the week.

**Isaiah 26:4**

“Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock.”

\*\*When practiced consistently, memorizing Bible verses can be an important spiritual practice that centers your mind around the truth that God has given us.

Daily Devotional Verses

Use the S.O.A.P. method to reflect on the verses below.

**Scripture**: Read the verses several times. Reading out loud can be helpful as well.  
**Observation**: What can you see about the scripture you read?  
**Application**: What is God wanting you to believe, do, or feel, based on what you have read?  
**Prayer**: This is a chance to talk to God about what you have read and ask him for help in living out what you’ve learned.

Day 1: Jeremiah 17:7

Day 2: Psalm 27:14

Day 3: Psalm 9:10

Day 4: Psalm 118:8

Day 5: Proverbs 30:5

Day 6: Isaiah 41:10