

10-08-25 Small Group Guide

Here's a small group guide based on the sermon transcription:

Small Group Guide: Lessons from Job

Opening Question:

What comes to mind when you think of the story of Job? Share any preconceptions or thoughts you have about this biblical figure.

Key Takeaways:

1. Job was described as blameless, upright, God-fearing, and one who shunned evil.
2. These characteristics are also found in other biblical figures like Noah and Cornelius.
3. Having these qualities doesn't prevent bad things from happening, but it does get God's attention.
4. We have advantages Job didn't have: the full Bible, knowledge of Jesus, and the indwelling Holy Spirit.
5. Our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of evil.

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you define being "blameless" and "upright" in today's context?
2. The sermon mentions that Job didn't have scripture but still sought God. How can we cultivate a deeper relationship with God beyond just reading the Bible?
3. Pastor Steve talked about "impressing God with our works." How does this idea sit with you? How does it relate to the concept of salvation by grace?
4. Discuss the statement: "Nothing will happen to you that God can't go ahead and redeem and rescue." How does this perspective impact how we

view trials in our lives?

5. How can we practically "shun evil" in our daily lives? What challenges do we face in doing so?

6. The sermon touched on spiritual warfare. How aware are you of this reality in your own life? How can we be more discerning about spiritual influences?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, focus on one of the four qualities mentioned (blameless, upright, God-fearing, shunning evil). Journal about your experiences and challenges.

2. Practice "earnestly seeking" God each day through intentional prayer and meditation.

3. Identify an area where you might be "hiding" from God. Take steps to bring this area into the light through confession or accountability.

4. Look for opportunities to be generous, like Cornelius. Consider both financial giving and acts of service.

5. Commit to praying regularly for discernment about spiritual influences in your life and the lives of those around you.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, like Job, help us to be blameless and upright, to fear You and shun evil. Give us the courage to seek You earnestly, even when we don't understand our circumstances. Thank You for the examples in Scripture that inspire us to live godly lives. Help us to impress You not for our glory, but for Yours. In Jesus' name, Amen.