

Group Discussion Questions

Week 2



At The Movies Week 2

- Has there been a time in your life when you felt completely hopeless? If so, what was it? Did you finally regain hope in this situation? If so, what did you learn from the experience?

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

- Even though we cannot physically see God, in what ways does He typically show you He is with you and working in your life?
- What types of things do you tend to be skeptical of when it comes to miracles? How does your skepticism affect others? How does it affect you?
- In the movie, Christ revealed Himself through a water stain on a stucco wall. In what unusual way has Christ revealed Himself to you in your own life? Did others doubt the reality of your experience? Do you think it should matter to you if they did?

...we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe

1 Timothy 4:10 (NIV)

- The central theme of this movie is a hopeless man who finds hope through an unusual circumstance. Describe a time when your hope in God allowed you to endure a difficult situation.

- How does having hope in God affect the way you live your life?

remember that at that time you were separate from Christ... without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 2:12-13 (NIV)

- Do you think your trust in God Describe how your outlook on life changed when coming to know Christ as your savior. What was your outlook like before?
- Throughout the movie, we saw how Christ pursued the main character even as he continued to run away. Describe a time when God pursued you, but you continued to run away. In what ways do you see Him pursuing you now?
- You can run from God in any area of your life but He will never stop pursuing your heart as a good and loving father. Share with the group what that means to you right now.

Final thought: "Life" will many times leave us feeling hopeless. However, through our relationship with Christ we have access to the hope we need to endure anything. With your group, ask God where He wants to bring a hope that transcends a need for explanation to each life and each family present . Take some time, rest in His presence and listen for His answer. Give it time, resist the urge to hurry this and move on. After listening together, share what you are hearing from God.

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A graphic in the top right corner featuring the text "at the MOVIES" in a stylized, 3D font. "at the" is in a smaller, red font, and "MOVIES" is in a larger, white font with a black outline. The text is set against a dark background with light rays emanating from behind the letters.

At The Movies Week 2

For Further Study

To use this resource, simply select one or two questions from each category below that you think will help your group discussion. Alternatively, you can use these questions and scriptures in your own personal devotions during the week.

Open

- How do you normally react to hardship and suffering?

Explore

Read 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

- What does God do when we are troubled? (1:4)
- How does God involve Himself in our troubles? (1:4-5)
- What did Paul's distress produce for the Corinthians? (1:6)
- In what way is patient endurance produced in Christians? (1:6)
- Why did Paul tell the Corinthians about the hardships he had endured? (1:8)
- Why did Paul despair? (1:8)
- How did Paul's confidence in God enable him to rise above his despair? (1:8-10)
- For what reason did Paul endure suffering? (1:9)
- How did the Corinthians help Paul through his hardships? (1:11)

Reflect

- How does God want us to help one another in difficult circumstances?
- How can you help other Christians who are suffering?
- How have other Christians helped you through difficult circumstances?
- How can you rely more on God instead of yourself in times of hardship?
- What can we do to learn patience and endurance from our hardships?

Apply

- What can you do this week to show love and concern for someone you know who is suffering?

Here are some suggestions you may want to use for your time with God this week:

Day 1: Read Hebrews 11:1. Have an honest conversation with God in prayer about your relationship with Him. Ask Him, "What do you want to show me today?"

Day 2: Read 1 Timothy 4:10. Tell God about any area of your life where you feel like there is no real hope. Ask Him to show you that He is a loving father and that you can trust Him.

Day 3: Read Ephesians 2:12-13. Spend time in prayer thanking God for how He has transformed your life. Find a way to celebrate that today.

Day 4: Read Matthew 5:4. Pray for someone you know who is mourning a loss. It may be a death, loss of a relationship, job loss or some other personal tragedy. Ask God how He might want to comfort them through you.

Day 5: Read 2 Corinthians 1:1-11. Ask God to give you comfort in any areas of your life where you may be suffering. Pray for those in your group who are currently enduring difficult situations. Find a way to be present in their life today without an agenda of "making them feel better." Just take time to be with them.