

PAPER TIGERS the lies we believe Discussion Guide

4-WEEK STUDY ON THE LIES WE BELIEVE

WEEK 4

Discussion Guide

2 Kings 6:8-23, Psalm 23



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WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: 2 Kings 6:8-23, Psalm 23

GETTING STARTED

Goals this week: To identify and replace the lie that "You are doomed" Missed the sermon? Watch it at <u>www.youtube.com/venturamissionary</u> Break the Ice: Who has been a spiritual hero in your life (i.e. someone you look up to for their faith)?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What was one thing that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon that you'd like to discuss?
- 2. On Sunday Pastor Doug asked if you ever feel discouraged, overwhelmed, or hopeless. How would you answer that question?
- 3. Think back to a time in your life where you felt discouraged, overwhelmed, or hopeless. How did you get through it?
- 4. On Sunday, we read **2 Kings 6:8-23** about Elisha, his servant, and the Aramean army. What does this story remind us about God? What does it remind us about our own circumstances?
- 5. In this story we read about how God opened Elisha's servant's eyes so he could see the angelic army surrounding the Aramean army. Oftentimes, we can't see how God is at work in our circumstances. Read **Hebrews 11:1** and discuss how we can have faith even when we can't see God at work.
- 6. Read the following passages from the Book of Psalms. For each passage, discuss what each one reminds us about God and about our circumstances:

Psalm 3, Psalm 23, Psalm 31:1-5, Psalm 34:7

7. Has there been a time that you've prayed and trusted God, but your circumstances didn't get better? In his book, Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at the Table, Pastor Louie Giglio writes, "Even though times are hard, you are not alone. God knows you're going through a hard time. He knows the way is dark. He hasn't promised to deliver you from the trouble, he's promised to see you through the trouble. There's a big difference."

How do you feel about that statement? Share how it either encourages or discourages you.

8. What is the most discouraging or difficult circumstance you are currently facing? How can your small group encourage you to continue trusting God in spite of your circumstances?





PRAYER

Pray for each other: Pray for each other and any needs, especially related to the areas of discouragement they shared.

Pray for yourself: Pray and ask God to help you remember that He is at work in your circumstances, even when you can't see it.

Pray for your four: Identify four people who don't know Jesus (friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers/ classmates), and commit to pray for them consistently. Pray that **(1)** God would reveal Jesus to them, **(2)** that God would turn their hearts towards Him, **(3)** that God would put Christians in their path to represent Christ, and **(4)** that God would give you an opportunity to share what Christ has done in your life.

ACTION STEPS

Read Psalm 23 at the beginning of each day this week. After each daily reading, go back and reflect on one verse and allow the Holy Spirit to bring you encouragement from God's Word.

NOTES

