



Outward Group Discussion Guide

October 12, 2025 (Silverton)

SUMMARY

In this message, we explore the profound concept that 'it must get worse before it gets better' in our spiritual lives. Drawing from the Exodus story, particularly Moses' initial encounters with Pharaoh, we see how God's plan for liberation often involves struggle and hardship. This pattern challenges our expectations of instant transformation and reminds us that belief is just the first step in a Christian life. The message encourages us to persevere through trials, understanding that God uses these moments to reveal Himself more fully. We're reminded that untested faith may not be genuine faith, and that God's grace extends even when we falter. This insight offers hope to the brokenhearted and calls us to trust in God's ultimate plan for redemption, even when circumstances seem to worsen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you experienced the pattern of 'it must get worse before it gets better' in your own spiritual journey? What lessons did you learn from those experiences?
2. In what ways might our modern desire for instant gratification and comfort hinder our spiritual growth and understanding of God's plan?
3. How does the story of Moses and the Israelites challenge our expectations of what it means to follow God's plan for our lives?
4. What are some practical ways we can maintain faith and trust in God when we're in the 'worse' part of the pattern and can't yet see how things will get better?
5. How might viewing struggles as opportunities for God to reveal Himself more fully change our perspective on difficult times?
6. In what ways does the concept of 'untested faith' challenge your understanding of what it means to be a true believer?

7. How can we, as believers, better support and encourage one another during times of struggle without minimizing the pain or rushing to solutions?
8. What role does humility play in our ability to hear and respond to God's voice, especially during times of hardship?
9. How does the idea that God is gracious to the brokenhearted impact your view of His character and your approach to your own struggles or those of others?
10. In light of this message, how might we need to adjust our expectations or approach when sharing the gospel with others or mentoring new believers?