

Questions for eGroup Discussion
and Personal Reflection

When God Doesn't Meet Our Expectations
February 4-5, 2017
Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

How to Use This Guide in a Group Setting

Group Participants: Review your notes from the message and ask the Holy Spirit to continue to speak to you about your life. Come to eGroup prepared to participate. Watch the message online if you missed it live.

Group Leaders: Give everyone the chance to share, focusing on the questions that connect most with your group. Don't feel you must answer every question. If someone missed the message, allow time for others to fill them in on the main points and highlights.

Getting Started

Describe a recent situation that frustrated you because you didn't know what to do.

How do you tend to respond when you find yourself in situations like this?

Embrace the Gospel

In our eGroup discussion guides, we're utilizing a simple structure for studying the Bible together, based on the acronym S.O.A.P. ...

S*pirit: Invite The Holy Spirit To Speak To You And To Guide Your Discussion*

Begin by praying and inviting the Spirit's activity into your discussion and application of God's Word.

Observation: *What Does This Passage Say?*

Before reading the main passage, spend a few minutes talking about who John the Baptist was. You can find more information in Luke 1:5-17, 67-80; 3:1-20.

Read Luke 7:18-23 ... in a couple of different Bible versions, if possible.

What are John's circumstances when he's mentioned in this passage?

Why is he asking the question he asks?

How might you feel in a similar circumstance?

How would you summarize Jesus' answer to John's question?

What does Jesus mean when he says to not "stumble on account of me?"

Read Luke 7:24-30

What new information does Jesus give the crowd regarding John the Baptist? Why is this important?

Read Luke 7:31-35

How would you summarize the main point of these verses in one sentence?

Application: *What Is God Saying To Me?*

Where do you most need to look beyond your own circumstances or expectations to see God's activity?

What would it look like for you to trust Him in this situation?

In doing this, where do you most need God's wisdom?

What one thing are you taking away from these verses in terms of application to your life? Go around and invite everyone to answer this question.

Pray: *Ask For God's Help In Living Out His Word*

Pray for each other in response to general points of application shared in your eGroup discussion, as well as needs and concerns for which you need prayer.

How can you be the hands and feet of Jesus to one another this week in practical, life-giving ways?

Engage in Mission

We are a church that is for the refugees in our community, and the refugees among us are in an especially vulnerable place these days. Apart from praying for them and our community's welcoming response to them, if your eGroup is looking for a way to be a source of blessing and practical encouragement, here are some suggestions:

- When you see them in the community, look them in the eye, smile, and let them know you're glad they're here.
- Ask the principal of your local school if there are any ways you can be a source of encouragement to refugee families of students who attend there.
- Contact one of the two local organizations below that are working directly with refugees in our community, asking them for specific ways to make a tangible impact. Also check out their websites.
- Bake cookies or provide snacks for refugees being served by these organizations, or perhaps for the staff who are serving refugees directly.
- Buy a card and write notes of encouragement to the leaders, staff, and volunteers of these organizations. They are feeling the emotional weight of current legislation. Consider making a financial donation.

The Global Refugee Center | grccolorado.org
917 10th Avenue, Greeley, CO 80631 Erich@grccolorado.org

Right to Read Adult Education Center | righttoread.net
917 10th Avenue, Greeley, CO 80631 | Lisa@r2rwelldcounty.org



Weekly Messages are available in audio and video at ccgreeley.org or on our free App.