

## LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**Message Series:** Love Can  
**Message Title:** Love Can Do Anything  
**Speaker:** Robert Conn  
**Date:** May 14, 2017

### UP NEXT

- **TRI-CITY FUN RUN** - Reality Church is hosting a 5K Fun Run at Walnut Creek on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please register online at [reality.church/events](http://reality.church/events). Everyone welcome. We will be collecting food and hygiene donations for Tri-City Food Pantry, please drop them off at the church beginning Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- **MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES** - We want you to stay connected this summer so we are offering Men's and Women's Bible Studies Wednesday evenings at the church. Each group will meet separately and will include hang out time, teaching time, and small group time. Childcare will be provided. All of this begins June 7 and will run from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Register and Purchase Books at [reality.church/events](http://reality.church/events).
- **LIFE GROUPS SUMMER BREAK** - Next week's sermon will be the final Discussion Guide sent out until the Fall semester of Life Groups. Your Life Group has a few options this summer when it comes to meeting such as:
  - Stop meeting and take the entire summer off. While this may sound relaxing, we don't suggest severing all communication for the entire summer.
  - Continue meeting each week or every other week. While we will not be providing discussion material, you are free to choose a study from Right Now Media.
  - Meet monthly for a social gathering. Play some games, have a cookout, meet at the park, it's up to you.
  - Some other mixture of this that best suits your group. Ideally, we want you guys to take a break and yet remain connected simply because Life doesn't stop happening to us in the summer. We still need each other!
- **FALL INFORMATION** -
  - re|engage (our marriage ministry) will begin a new class on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Life Groups Kickoff Event (for all Leaders & Hosts) will be Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Life Groups resume Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

### MAIN IDEA .....

God's love shines through us in miraculous ways.

### INTRODUCTION .....

- God's people had been exiled in Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar. The Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed but as you might expect they longed to return home. The prophet Jeremiah sends a message from God to the exiles and it was not what they were expecting. They were hoping for deliverance. Rather God's message was one of patience, endurance, and obedience.
- God's people exiled in Babylon wanted to return to the Promised Land. God, however, God planned for them to stay put and be a blessing in an uncomfortable situation in an uncomfortable land. It is not God's will for us to try to escape every difficult situation, but to be a source of light instead.
- Most of us today can relate to the exiles. We find ourselves in situations where we want God to deliver us immediately, rather God often asks us to remain patience and to continue being obedient.

## DISCUSSION .....

- Where's the worst place you've ever lived? Why are you glad you aren't there any longer?
- How long were you there?
- How would you respond if God wanted you to move back to there?
- How do you respond in General when God leads you to do something you'd rather not do?
- Have you ever prayed to God for something to happen and God was silent or did not answer the prayer in the way you wished he would?
- Have someone read [\(Jeremiah 29:5-7\)](#)
  - How would you have received this message from God when you were hoping to be rescued and return home immediately?
  - Could you do what God was asking them to do? Eagerly? Willingly? Obediently?
- Have someone read **(Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Peter 2:19; Matthew 5:9)**
  - How are these passages similar to Jeremiah's passage?

## APPLY IT .....

Of these ideas listed... do any of them sound doable? Do any of them sound impossible?

- Ask God to miraculously change things rather than complaining about things.
- Be a blessing and a peacemaker wherever you go.
- Pray for our city.
- Normal things matter. Buying a house, raising your kids around other people's kids, living in proximity to people who are far from God.
- Stop complaining about the people around you.

*Thank you all for such a great year of Life Groups! Have a great Summer break. Don't forget to utilize the free resources of Right Now Media. Visit **reality.church/rightnow** for more information.*

*Robert*