God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

Let God Go Before You

Speaker: Julie Pedroza

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Highlighted Scripture

- **Psalm 46:10 (NIV)**

  "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

  Psalm 46 places God's rule amid upheaval and conflict. Being still begins with recognizing who God is and yielding our need to control everything. Julie's account of feeling overloaded invites us to bring our anxious thoughts to him. Our confidence rests in his presence and authority, even while difficult circumstances continue.

- **Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV)**

  "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

  Moses spoke these words to Joshua as he prepared to lead Israel into the promised land. God's faithfulness gave Joshua courage for the responsibility ahead. Julie draws encouragement from that faithful character. Seeking God's direction before acting helps us depend on him, without assuming that every personal plan will succeed or every trial will disappear.

- **Ephesians 6:10-11 (NIV)**

  "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

  Paul calls believers to receive the Lord's strength and use God's armor to stand against the devil's schemes. The surrounding passage describes a spiritual struggle and equips believers with truth, righteousness, faith, God's word, and prayer. Julie's call to prepare each morning is an invitation to faithful dependence, never permission to treat other people as enemies.

Discussion Questions

- Julie describes distressing news and demanding responsibilities crowding her heart. What tends to fill your attention, and how does it affect the way you respond to God and people?
- How does recognizing God's authority change the meaning of being still? What might faithful stillness look like when an urgent responsibility still requires action?
- Julie says she cannot go first and ask God to tag along. Where are you tempted to seek his approval for a decision you have already made?

- How can the Lord's presence give you courage when a problem remains unresolved? What helps you distinguish trusting God from expecting a particular outcome?
- What would standing in the Lord's strength look like in a difficult conversation this week? How could truth, prayer, and love shape your response?

Reflection Challenge

For the next seven days, begin one ordinary responsibility with a brief pause for prayer. Name the concern honestly, read one highlighted passage, and choose one faithful next step. Notice where trust changes your response, even when circumstances remain difficult.

Ask yourself:

- What am I carrying as though the whole outcome depends on me?
- Am I listening for God's direction or asking him to endorse my preference?
- What response would reflect his truth and love toward the people involved?

Try this:

- Before opening news or social media, spend five quiet minutes reading and praying through one highlighted passage.
- Write one current concern beside one responsible action you can take today. Entrust the outcome to God.
- Before a demanding conversation or task, ask for wisdom, patience, courage, and strength to do what is right.
- At week's end, share with a trusted believer one burden you still carry and one way God has helped you persevere.

Remember

- God remains sovereign when the world feels unsettled.
- Being still includes surrendering control and attending to God's word.
- Seek God's direction before moving ahead with your own plans.
- His presence sustains faithful endurance; it does not promise a trouble-free day.
- Spiritual strength comes from the Lord, and people remain neighbors to love.
- As Julie encourages us, be blessed and be a blessing.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

You see the concerns that fill our minds and the responsibilities before us. Help us become still before you and trust your authority. Teach us to seek your direction before acting, receive your strength, and respond to others with truth and love. Give us courage to take the next faithful step and patience when the outcome remains uncertain. Keep us attentive to your word and ready to be a blessing.

In Jesus' name, Amen.