God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

The Lord’s Hospital

Speaker: Tony Orihuela

Scripture quotations: World English Bible (WEB), public domain.

Highlighted Scripture

- **Philippians 4:6 (WEB)**

  "In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

  Paul invites believers to bring every concern to God with honest requests and gratitude. His next words describe God's peace guarding believers in Christ. Prayer is trust in God's care, not a formula that guarantees the outcome we request. Tony's invitation is practical: bring your worries to the Lord and let other believers pray with you.

- **Jeremiah 29:11 (WEB)**

  "thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future."

  God spoke these words to His people living in exile in Babylon. Their promised restoration would follow a long wait; meanwhile, they were to live faithfully where they were. This reveals God's faithfulness through hardship. It does not promise every individual wealth, immediate relief, or an easy life. We can entrust our future to God while taking today's faithful step.

Discussion Questions

- Tony describes the church as a hospital and admits, 'I don't have it all together.' How might that honesty change the way we receive help or treat someone who is struggling?
- Think of a time you felt unfamiliar or out of place in a church gathering. What helped you feel welcome, and how could you offer that same care to someone else?
- What changes when you turn a recurring worry into a specific prayer? How can thanksgiving remain honest when the situation is still painful or unresolved?
- Jeremiah's first hearers faced a long wait. How does their situation help you distinguish trusting God's faithfulness from expecting your preferred timetable or outcome?
- Tony says, 'We are the church.' What would it look like for your group to carry its prayer, encouragement, and witness beyond the church building this week?

Reflection Challenge

This week, take one step toward receiving care and one step toward offering it. Bring a real concern to God, share it with a trusted believer, and make room for someone who may feel unseen.

Ask yourself:

- What am I carrying alone that I could honestly bring to God and share with someone trustworthy?
- Do I feel pressure to appear strong before I can belong or ask for prayer?
- Who might I overlook because I usually stay with familiar people?
- What faithful action can I take even while an answer remains unclear?

Try this:

- Write one concern, one specific request, and one reason for gratitude. Use them in a short prayer each day this week.
- Ask a trusted believer to pray with you. Tell them what kind of encouragement or practical help would be useful.
- At your next gathering, introduce yourself to someone you do not know. Listen, welcome them, and offer prayer without pressure.
- Follow up with one person during the week. Ask how they are doing and offer one practical act of care.

Remember

- You do not need to have everything together before seeking God or receiving care.
- Prayer makes room for honest requests and genuine thanksgiving.
- Trusting God includes leaving the outcome and timing in His hands.
- God's faithfulness gives hope through hardship; it does not remove every hardship.
- A warm welcome and a listening ear can help someone take a step toward connection.
- The church is a people called to encourage one another and share Christ.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You that we can come to You with our needs. Help us bring our worries into prayer with gratitude and trust Your wisdom while we wait. Give us humility to receive help and compassion to notice people who feel alone. Make our church a place of welcome, truth, prayer, and patient care. Strengthen us to follow Jesus, encourage one another, and share the hope of the gospel in everyday life.

In Jesus' name, Amen.