

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Guest Speaker

Message: Is Anything Too Hard for the Lord?

Speaker: [Scott Thomas](#)

Date: April 28, 2024

IS ANYTHING
TOO HARD FOR
THE LORD?

Connect (30min)

1. Read [Philippians 4:4-14](#).

As we head into May, let's share one thing we're thankful for and one challenge we're currently facing.

2. Monthly Check In: Using a scale of 1-10 (poor-excellent) how are you in these three areas?

a. Physical Health ___ b. Mental Health ___ c. Spiritual Health ___.


3. Break into groups of 3-4 and spend a few minutes praying for one another in response to what's been shared.

Message Discussion (40min)

1. Message Feedback

- Share your initial feedback on Sunday's Message, with Guest Speaker – Scott Thomas. What did you learn? What questions or applications did you leave with?
- Did anyone participate in the *Gospel Coach Training* with Scott on Fri/Sat? Share your feedback.

2. Problems & Prayer

Read  [Acts 12:1-17](#) and consider when you felt overwhelmed by a challenge or problem.


- Did you turn to prayer immediately, or did it take a while to seek God's help?
- What insights can you draw from this experience about the relationship between problems and prayer?
- The story of Peter's miraculous escape from prison in [Acts 12:6-7](#) demonstrates the peace that comes through trusting in God's sovereignty, even during difficult circumstances. How do you typically respond when faced with adversity or uncertainty? Do you find it challenging to rest in God's peace, or do you rely on your strength and understanding?
- [Acts 12:8-17](#) highlights the power of prayer to bring about God's intervention in seemingly impossible situations. Have you ever experienced a situation where you witnessed the power of prayer firsthand? How did this experience impact your faith and perspective on prayer?

3. Unanswered Prayer

Discuss the concept of unanswered prayer.

- How can we maintain trust in God's sovereignty, even when our prayers are not answered as we hoped?
- Prayer asks God to accomplish his will through our lives and circumstances, even if we must suffer. How does this perspective challenge common misconceptions about prayer? How can we cultivate a deeper understanding of prayer by aligning our will with God's will rather than simply seeking to manipulate outcomes according to our desires?

4. Read & reflect on [Jeremiah 32:27](#), "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

- Briefly – what is the context of this message from the Lord? (Jeremiah's prayer and the condition of Jerusalem)
- Considering this question, examine an area where you may have doubted God's ability to intervene or provide a solution. Partner up and briefly share your personal example, and what steps you took, or could take, to renew your trust in God's limitless power and sovereignty over every situation?
- In [Acts 12](#), the church gathered to pray fervently for Peter's deliverance from prison. Reflecting on the importance of communal prayer in times of crisis or need, how does praying together with other believers strengthen our faith and unity as a community? Read  [Ephesians 6:10-20](#).


5. Trials & Trust


We must maintain faith and trust in God's power, even when faced with insurmountable obstacles.

- a. Share a personal testimony or story where you witnessed God's power and faithfulness in adversity. How did this experience shape your perspective on God's ability to accomplish His will in your life?
 - b. **Acts 12:6-7** presents Peter sleeping peacefully amid imminent danger. Why was he able to sleep so well? Discuss practical ways to cultivate this kind of peace in our lives, especially during times of uncertainty or turmoil.
6. Peter's miraculous escape from prison underscores the importance of persistent prayer and unwavering faith in God's ability to answer prayers.
- a. Have you experienced answered prayer in response to persistent prayer over significant time? How did this impact your life and faith?
 - b. Is there an area or issue that you're persistently praying about this year, but have yet to experience a clear answer? How is this praying, waiting, and wondering impacting your life and faith?
 - c. Considering Peter's story in Acts and our own stories how can we cultivate a deeper trust in God's faithfulness to answer our prayers? What are some personal and collective steps that we can engage?
 - d. Reflecting on **Jeremiah 32:27**, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" How can meditating on this truth strengthen our faith and encourage us to approach God confidently, knowing that He can accomplish far more than we could ever ask or imagine?

Prayer (20min)

> Break into groups of 3-4, or Men & Women, to enhance your sharing and prayer time.

John 16:33  *"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth, you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart because I have overcome the world."* – Jesus

Romans 5:3-5  *We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.* – Paul

***In response to the message, sharing, and discussion -- how can we pray for you personally? Pray for one another.**

Resources

> [Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy: Discovering the Grace of Lament, Mark Vroegop](#)

> [How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People, by Pete Grieg](#)

> [God On Mute: Engaging the Silence of Unanswered Prayer, by Pete Grieg](#)

> [Unanswered Prayer Course – 24-7 Prayer and Pete Grieg](#). Free five session course with videos and resources.