

Overcomer

WEEK 5- MOTHER'S DAY – OVERCOMING YOUR HARDSHIPS

BIG IDEA:

We all have hardships, but it is those hardships that really help us grow. Through the stories of Hannah, Ruth, and Rhoda, we can see how God walked with each of them through the trials that they faced.

KEY VERSE:

James 1:2-4 tells us, "Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What have the difficult situation(s) you have faced in the past or are facing right now exposed in your heart (fear, control, rejection, etc.)?

Key Point #1: Hannah: God Has a Bigger Picture in the Hardship

2. What does it mean to fully trust God? Is that true of you?
3. Are you willing to surrender whatever it is you long for to the Lord? Why or why not? What does surrender look like?

Key Point #2: Ruth: God Has Unexpected Blessings in the Hardship

4. Have you ever found yourself in an "as it happened" situation?
5. How can you recognize when God is blessing you? What should your response be in those situations?

Key Point #3: Rhoda: God Gives us Joy in the Middle of the Hardship

6. What does it mean to you personally that your joy is important to God? What does that tell you about his heart for you?

MOVING FORWARD:

It is the Holy Spirit who helps us overcome our hardships by walking through them with us. He helps us recognize where God is working and blessing us and how to experience joy in the midst of difficult things. Discuss as a group how you can find joy in the midst of the hardships you are facing right now. Where can you see that God is walking with you?