

Discussion Guide (December 31, 2023)

Joanna Elrod

Message: *Expect the Unexpected*

PRIMARY PASSAGE

2 Corinthians 12: 9b-10: *So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

HIGHLIGHTS

- Life is full of unexpected and often challenging twists of life. We looked briefly at the lives of Joseph, Job and Paul, whose lives took many unexpected twists and turns. Each of these men remained faithful to God.
- Three things you need to do to prepare for the unexpected
 1. Trust Jesus as your Savior
 2. Read your Bible
 3. Pray

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share a moment in your life when things didn't go as planned, and you were faced with unexpected challenges. How did you cope with it?
2. How do you personally cope with unmet expectations? What strategies do you use to navigate unexpected twists?
3. Joanna challenged us to trust in God's plan, even when faced with uncertainty. How do you approach the concept of surrendering to God's plan and will in your life?
4. Joanna encouraged us to spend time with God in prayer and in reading the Bible. How have these spiritual practices helped you through challenging times?
5. If you participated in The Bible Recap this year, share any challenges and/or highlights from your experience. If you would like to join us in 2024, head to www.biblerecap.com.

**Romans 5:13: *I pray that God, the source of hope,
will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him.
Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.***