

Go Deeper

Disciple Group Leader Guide

DISAPPOINTED BUT NOT DONE

Based on Genesis 29:15–30

Opening

This week's message reminded us that disappointment doesn't mean God has abandoned His plan. Jacob experienced deception, delay, and unmet expectations, yet God's purpose continued to unfold. Tonight is an opportunity to honestly discuss where we wrestle with disappointment and how God calls us to remain faithful.

Ice Breaker

Describe a time when things didn't go according to plan. Looking back, what did you learn from that experience?

Opening Prayer

Invite God to speak through His Word and give everyone the courage to be honest about areas of disappointment while strengthening their faith.

Read Together

Genesis 29:15–30

(Optional: Ask several group members to read portions of the passage.)

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. *Disappointment doesn't mean God is finished with your story. Jacob's disappointment was real, but it wasn't the end of God's plan. Our circumstances may change, but God's purposes remain.*

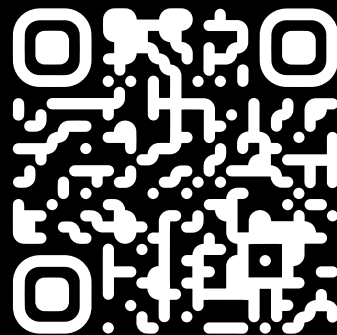
ANNOUNCEMENTS

07.26.26
Grow Class

08.02.26
TP Kicks

08.02.26
Back to School
Prayer Service

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TURNING POINT

2. God's timing is often different from ours. Waiting can be frustrating, but God uses seasons of delay to develop our faith, character, and dependence on Him
3. We can be honest with God about our disappointment without losing our faith. Jacob confronted what happened instead of pretending everything was fine. Faith allows room for grief, questions, and honesty while continuing to trust God.
4. *God can redeem what we never would have chosen.* The unexpected parts of Jacob's story became part of God's greater plan. God is able to bring purpose out of painful and disappointing seasons.
5. *Don't give up.* The main challenge of the sermon is perseverance. Even when people disappoint us or life doesn't go as planned, God remains faithful and calls us to keep trusting Him.

Discussion Questions

The Promise May Take Longer Than You Expected: Habakkuk 2:3

Jacob expected seven years of waiting, but his journey became fourteen. Waiting has a way of testing both our patience and our trust in God.

- Why do long seasons of waiting challenge our faith?
- Have you ever mistaken God's delay for God's absence?
- What has God taught you during a season of waiting?

When Expectations Meet Reality : Romans 8:28

Jacob expected Rachel but woke up beside Leah. We've all experienced moments where life didn't unfold the way we imagined.

- What expectations have you had that weren't fulfilled?
- How can disappointment affect the way we view God?
- Where have you seen God redeem something difficult?

Choosing Faith Over Frustration :Galatians 6:9

Jacob acknowledged what happened without allowing it to define the rest of his story.

- Why is it tempting to make major decisions when we're discouraged?
- What does healthy perseverance look like?
- How can the people in this group help one another stay faithful?

Go Deeper

God Can Use What We Didn't Choose

Even the unexpected parts of Jacob's story became part of God's greater plan.

- Have you ever seen God use something you would never have chosen?
- Is there an area where you're still waiting to see God's purpose?

Remember Your "Why" : Revelation 2:4-5

When discouragement sets in, it's important to remember why we started following God's call in the first place.

- *What originally motivated your faith?*
- *What helps you stay encouraged when progress feels slow?*

God Is Still Faithful : Numbers 23:19 & Philippians 1:6

People may disappoint us, but God's character never changes.

- Which promise of God do you find yourself holding onto today?
- What encouraged you most from Sunday's message?

Sermon Truth

- God's delays are not God's denials. Waiting often develops our character before God fulfills His promise.
- Disappointment comes when reality doesn't match our expectations, but God is still present and working.

Leader Insight

- Growth often happens in seasons we would never choose.
- Encourage members to revisit God's faithfulness in previous seasons.
- Lead the group toward placing hope in God's unchanging character rather than changing circumstances.

Application

Ask each person to answer one or more of the following:

- Which sermon point challenged you the most?
- Where are you currently experiencing disappointment?
- What is one practical step of faith you will take this week instead of giving up?
- How can this group pray for you specifically?

Memory Verse : Galatians 6:9 (CSB)

"Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up."

Closing Challenge

Encourage the group to remember:

- Delays do not mean God has forgotten you.
- Disappointment does not cancel God's purpose.
- God is still working, even when you cannot see it.
- Don't give up before God finishes what He started.

Ask everyone to identify one area this week where they will intentionally choose faith over discouragement.

Memory Verse : Galatians 6:9 (CSB)

"Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up."

This Week's Challenge:

Identify one area where you've become discouraged. Spend time praying specifically over that situation this week, asking God to strengthen your faith rather than simply change your circumstances.

Closing Reflection

Before you leave, take a moment to reflect on these questions:

- Where has disappointment challenged my trust in God?
- What is one area where God is inviting me to keep trusting Him instead of giving up?

Take a moment of quiet reflection, then close the group in prayer.

Closing Prayer

Pray that God would:

- Heal hearts carrying disappointment.
- Strengthen those who are weary.
- Give wisdom to those making important decisions.
- Build perseverance and faith.
- Help each person trust His timing and remain faithful until they see His promises fulfilled.

Leader Notes

- Create a safe space for honest sharing - this week's topic may bring up personal experiences with disappointment, loss, or unanswered prayers. Allow people to share at their own comfort level, and avoid pressuring anyone to speak.
- Listen more than you teach. Resist the urge to answer every question or fill every silence. Give people space to process and respond.
- Point people to hope. The goal of this discussion isn't to explain every disappointment but to remind one another that God remains faithful, even when life doesn't unfold as expected.
- Follow up - reach out to group members during the week

Leader Reminder: Your role is to facilitate discussion, not deliver another sermon. Encourage participation, keep the conversation rooted in Scripture, and create space for the Holy Spirit to work through God's Word and within your group.