

## Find Joy In Suffering

When Life Hits Hard, James 1:2, Philippians 1, 3-4

February 26, 2022

Community Group Discussion Questions

### PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- **Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but select 5 or 6 questions you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.**
- **Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.**
- **You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.**
- **Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.**

### ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

**1. Share your name and answer one the following questions:**

- **What was one of the most joyful moments in your life?**
- When was a time you felt both joy and sadness at the same time?

**OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes)** – *Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:*

**2. What scripture, stories, or statements stood out to you from Sunday's message?**

**DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes)** – *ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app. You might consider looking up these passages online and sharing your screen to review them together.*

**3. Read James 1:2.**

- **James calls us to consider it joy when we suffer. How did Sunday's message help you understand what this looks like?**

**4. Read Philippians 3:12-14.**

- **Paul talks about forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead. How do we do that? What does that look like?**
- **As you look at your life, what is something you are having a hard time leaving behind or forgetting? What would help you leave it behind?**

**5. Reread Philippians 3:13-14.**

- What do you need to focus on to move toward what God wants for you?

**6. Read Philippians 4:4-5.**

- Paul reminds us that the Lord is near. When have you felt nearest to Christ? What was happening in your life?
- How do we remind ourselves God is near when we don't feel it?

### APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes) –

**7. What difficulty are you facing that our group can be praying about for you?**

**8. Pick one of the group challenges below to do together this week:**

- **Memorization:** Each pick one of the verses from Philippians, Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:16-17, or Psalm 46:1. Memorize it and share next week how that verse impacted you.
- **Read Philippians 1-4.** Read 1 chapter of Philippians each day and text each other how it impacted you.