PURSUE GOD’S PROVISION

When things aren't moving as quickly as we'd like, we can turn reactive. So, essentially all of 2020 comes to mind, right? It has been coming at us Fast and Furious. That frustration can lead to anger, and anger can lead to broken relationships. God wants to be our redeemer. How can we become more humble, more trusting, and look to God as our rescuer?

Work through the following questions and scriptures on your own, and get together with your running partner, life group, or friends and family to talk through what you are learning.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite film series and why?

2. What stood out to you from the message? What questions do you have? What got you excited, curious, or confused? What do you want to do as a result of what you heard?

3. Read Proverb 14:29. Was there a time in your own life when you experienced the truth of this Proverb? Explain.

4. Eric said, “Through the scriptures and the person of Jesus we learn that we are loved and blessed. God’s love and blessings are not contingent on anything we have done or not done, have or don’t have.” Do you believe and live like this is true? Whether you answer yes or no, what has led you to that belief?

5. We heard in the message that our identity should come from who we are in Christ. From what you have read or heard about in the Bible, what is our identity in Christ? Do you think about yourself like that? Why or why not?

6. Read Samuel 1:10-18. In this passage we see that Hannah after unloading her pain on God “no longer had a downcast face”. What are your go-to actions/behaviors when you are hurting or angry? If your reaction isn’t to go to God in prayer what do you think holds you back from doing so?

7. Paul (writer of many of the books in the New Testament) was told by God, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12:9. How have you seen God’s power come through even in your weaknesses or in unanswered prayers?

8. My Next Step: In today’s message we talked about 1) Pursuing God in your pain, 2) Being fully honest with God, 3) Trusting God and doing your part, 4) Trusting God to bring good when we suffer, and 5) Remembering God is who we need most. Which of these areas of walking with God is a challenge for you? What might God be prompting you to step into or try out in the coming weeks?
Proverbs 14:29. Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly.

1 Samuel 1:10-18. In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. And she made a vow, saying, “Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant’s misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.” As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk and said to her, “How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.” “Not so, my lord,” Hannah replied, “I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.” Eli answered, “Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him.” She said, “May your servant find favor in your eyes.” Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

2 Corinthians 12:9. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

DIGGING DEEPER

As you dig deeper into this week’s message, check out the bonus resources below:

- To learn more about how God looks at Justice watch the Bible Project Video on Justice: bibleproject.com/explore/justice

- Curious about the books we have been reading and teaching from in the Bible throughout this series? Watch the Bible Projects videos on 1 and 2 Samuel: bibleproject.com/explore/1-samuel and bibleproject.com/explore/2-samuel

- Read The Tale of Three Kings by Gene Edwards — This book is based on the biblical figures of David, Saul, and Absalom. For the many followers of Jesus who have experienced pain, loss, and heartache at the hands of other believers, this compelling story offers comfort, healing, and hope.

COVID-19 Response
We know the COVID-19 pandemic has created needs and hardships for many people, and Gateway wants to help. If you need prayer, please visit gatewaychurch.com/prayer

And if you have other needs, please visit gatewaychurch.com/-gethelp

Moreover, if you’re looking for ways to help others in their time of need, please visit gatewaychurch.com/givehelp.

To dive deeper, share your thoughts, and hear from others, join a Community Group at gatewaychurch.com/groups