

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of April 2-8, 2023

“THE THREE CHAIRS”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What was your favorite Bible story as a kid? Why?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. How do you make decisions? Do you make them quickly without much thought, or is decision-making difficult for you? Do you ask for help and consider the advice of friends? Do you often read God’s Word to find an answer and seek God’s help through prayer?
2. Choose from one the following passages and list evidences of Joshua’s walk with God: (1) Numbers 13:1-2,16-14:9; (2) Joshua 1:1-15; (3) Joshua 3:1-4:8; (4) Joshua 6:1-6,15-20; (5) Joshua 23:1-3, 6,8,11. Describe what you think would be the characteristics of a person with a firsthand faith and one with a secondhand faith.
3. Read Galatians 6:7-10. What are some implications of the principle of “sowing and reaping”? What do you think is the opportunity that Paul is referring to in verse 10?
4. Another part of the sowing/reaping principle is that you reap “later” and “greater.” Can you give examples from your own life where you have seen this? In relation to later, the Bible encourages us to “not grow weary” (see Galatians 6:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 12:3. Why is this such an important reminder?
5. Do you know of a person that you think models a firsthand faith? Why do you think that person models a firsthand faith?
6. *Application.* If people close to you were to declare which chair you are sitting in, what would they say? How badly do you want to sit on the first chair? What specific action do you need to start sowing today in order to reap a personal harvest in the future?

7. NEXT STEPS

Firsthand faith is a choice you make.

- ☐ I will seek to sit on the first chair.
- ☐ I will remember the law of sowing and reaping and choose to sow seeds that will glorify God.
- ☐ I will not weary of doing good.
- ☐ I will be alert to the opportunities that God will give me.

Don’t forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a heart that truly seeks to sit on the first chair and to prioritize in sowing seeds of eternal value.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

April 3 Joshua 24:14-28
April 4 Luke 9:57-62
April 5 Exodus 25
April 6 John 13:21-30
April 7 John 19:28-37
April 8 1 Corinthians 15:50-54
April 9 1 Corinthians 15:55-58