

NEHEMIAH 5-6

SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

TO DISCUSS ON _____

PART 1: GOD LOVES TO PROVIDE FOR THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

Read PSALM 34.

What does VERSE 7 say encamps around those who fear God?

Where are the ears of the Lord attentive to in VERSE 15? What does God hear in VERSE 17?

Share a time that you have called out to the LORD and He answered you.

Sometimes God says no, or slow, or grow.... But there is always a yes waiting—the very best yes. His timing, our character, and His glory and His will must align with our requests. (JAMES 4:2-3)
His answer is always exactly what we need. He loves to provide for His people!

Do you feel you can cry out to God in any circumstance? Do you typically ask Him for bigger or smaller needs?

This Psalm was written after David lied to Saul, ate consecrated bread, and pretended to be insane to escape the king in his enemy Philistine city of Gath since it was illegal to harm unstable people. He understood the importance of fearing the LORD and calling out to him. Read this account in 1 SAMUEL 21 and then reread PSALM 34:6 in light of that understanding.

Reread the passage and underline the words SAVE, DELIVER, and FEAR OF THE LORD.

What is it you need today? Do you need a job? Direction? Help? Comfort? A good night of sleep? Healing? Wisdom? Forgiveness? Ask! Don't fear needs—Fear God—who alone can provide! Ask!
Allow the radiance of PSALM 34:4-6 to become visible in your life today.

My enemies, my troubles, and my worries fade in Your presence, LORD. Increase my capacity to rest in the security and satisfaction that You have overcome all things

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PART 2: GOD LOVES TO PROTECT THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

Read PSALM 33: a Psalm of protection.

Underline the words HOPE and FEAR THE LORD.

Our lives are filled with small ways we try to protect ourselves. We wear helmets. Seat belts. Buy insurance of all kinds. Create passwords. Carry concealed weapons. Use anti-aging cream. Investments and retirement plans. We even buy cases and protection plans for our devices!

VERSES 6-9 give us a good reasons why we should fear God. What are they?

What two things does VERSE 11 say stands firm forever?

What does VERSE 12 say makes a nation blessed?

What two things does VERSE 14 & 15 say God does from His dwelling place?

What does VERSE 16 & 17 say cannot save us?

Where does VERSE 18 say the eyes of the Lord are?

God doesn't always save us from things, sometimes He saves us through things. His protection doesn't always look like we think it ought to, but He always protects His people as we wait on Him.

After completing your study this week, perhaps in your small group, reread PSALM 34:18-22. Think deeper on the themes of hoping, waiting, fearing, trusting, and deliverance with God.

LORD, Your loving kindness and mercy surround me every day, so I will not fear whatever might come against me. My trust is in you alone. Thank you for protecting Your people.

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PART 3: GOD LOVES TO GUIDE THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

Read PSALM 25. Psalm 25 is a poem about God's guidance originally written as an alphabetic acrostic in Hebrew. As you read, underline the words HOPE, GUIDE, and FEAR THE LORD.

Write all of the ways that God guides us recorded in the verses below:

VERSE 8

VERSE 9

VERSE 12-13

VERSE 14

VERSE 15

The Word of God is alive and active. As we are in His Word, we receive His guidance and increase in patience. If we are in the Lord, as we hope, there is often waiting. As we wait, let us hope! They go hand in hand. Reread VERSES 3 & 21 and interchange the word hope with the word wait.

What are you waiting on the LORD for? What area of your life are you placing your hope in Him right now?

Record the requests that David asks of the LORD in the verses below:

VERSE 16

VERSE 17

VERSE 18

VERSE 20

VERSE 21

The LORD delights to guide your steps and rescue His people. Seek Him!

LORD, Your Word reveals Your character, Your will, and Your redemptive plan for the world. As we look to You for guidance, decrease our desire to lean on our own understanding.

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PART 4: GOD LOVES TO LOVE THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

Read PSALM 103. *I rejoice that we serve a God who delights in telling us what He really is like!*

As you read this Psalm, record or underline all the attributes of God this passage records.

We are all growing in Christlikeness. We will never arrive, but it is good that we strive to be like Christ! Reread this passage slowly, and record any character traits you have grown up in and let the Holy Spirit nudge you in areas you could focus on being more like Christ.

HAVE GROWN IN

WANT TO DEVELOP

Underline VERSE 17 & 18. If we fear the LORD we are loved from everlasting to everlasting!

Likewise, if we are so loved, we will be tempted to believe we are not. On a scale of 1 to 10, how deeply do you believe you are intimately loved by God, and how deeply do you feel loved by God.

BELIEVE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
FEEL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

There are different kinds of God's love. Just as we love our siblings, our friends, our spouses, our favorite foods, and children differently, there is a deeper, richer love that God saves for those who fear Him. May we pursue a deeper fear of God so we may personally experience the depth of the blessings of His guidance, provision, protection, and love in this life!

LORD, Your loving kindness and mercy surround me every day, so I will not fear whatever might come against me. My trust is in you alone. Thank you for protecting Your people.