



ICEBREAKER

If you were allowed to take one thing with you to Heaven what is so precious to you that you would want to have it for eternity?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read: Psalm 23

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• When the unwelcome storm comes, we can choose to respond with either fear or faith, but we can't do both. When trouble comes we have a choice, we can worry or worship. We can't both trust God and then behave as if He can't be trusted.

What are some things in our lives that cause us to be anxious or worry but we call it something else to justify our worrying?

Does, "Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life..." speak to you? Will this determine how you may respond to worrying in the future?

• BECAUSE THE GOODNESS OF GOD IS WITH ME

Read: Psalm 145:20

We all have had times when we made plans to go somewhere or to do something but our plans were derailed or postponed. Some unforeseen interruption happened and we couldn't get to where we wanted to go and do what we wanted to do when we wanted to do it. As we have read, the goodness of God is with us and He protects all those who love Him.

Describe a time you were delayed, detoured, postponed, canceled on, etc. that after the fact you knew that God had intervened to protect you from harm.

• BECAUSE GOD'S GRACE IS WORKING IN ME

Read: Isaiah 60:10
Psalm 103:1-13
Hebrews 4:16

Goodness: "When God gives me what I don't deserve."
Mercy: "When God doesn't give me what I do deserve."

If God gave us everything we deserve, we would not be here right now. If God gave us everything we deserve, we would have no hope for today or for tomorrow. But

because of His mercy, because of His grace in action, we are here with a real hope.

Has there been a situation in your life that you had no idea how you would get through it? What happened? How did God bring you through that time with His mercy and grace?

If God's grace is working in you how have you demonstrated His grace to others?

• BECAUSE GOD'S GLORY IS WAITING FOR ME

Read: 1 Corinthians 2:9

"Someday you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God." — Billy Graham

*"...and I will live in the house of the Lord forever." "And" is an important word because it is the word that connects today with tomorrow. Even when the goodness and the mercy of the Lord follows us all the days of our lives... this blessing does not end in our death. In life we have a Good Shepherd who makes us to lie down in green pastures, who leads us beside the still waters and who leads us in the paths of righteousness. All of these truths are building up to the final act of our lives where we get to proclaim, **"...and I will live in the house of the Lord forever."***

When you think of, "...and I will live in the house of the Lord forever," what comes to mind as to how and what eternity will be like?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Create a list of ten things (to start) you are thankful for from God: His blessings, provisions and protection in your and over your life. Keep adding to this list to remind yourself of His promises to you.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Extend the grace and mercy that has been given to you to those in your life that you already have been prompted by the Holy Spirit to do so. When you are weak, He is strong - allow His strength to work in and through you to be more like Jesus and less like you.

PRAISE REPORTS / PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep Dave & Deb Rodges in your prayers as this week's highlighted missionaries.