

Taking it Home:

1. How might God use you to be a source of comfort and encouragement to someone struggling with the current state of our world? What from the message or your GG discussion could you share?
2. Memorize one or all of the following Scripture passages: Matthew 28:20, John 14:27, 16:33, Philippians 4:6-7.

Prayer Concerns:

Take Heart!

John 16:31-33

“‘You believe at last!’ Jesus answered. ‘But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.’”

1. The world is _____ as it should be.
2. God is working even when _____.
3. In Jesus there is _____.
4. I can rest in _____.

Facilitated prayer:

1. Acknowledge the anxiety and fear in our own hearts concerning our world.
2. Declare our hope and trust in God.
3. Pray for the needs of our community/world that bring us anxiety, fear, and anger.

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. Considering the events going on in our country and our world, what is your anxiety level on a scale from 1-10? Why?

Digging Deeper:

Read John 16:17-33

1. What is the context of verses 31-33 considering the broader discourse in verses 17-33?
2. Though the disciples knew what was to come, in the time between Jesus' death and resurrection, they struggled to believe what he told them. What truths and promises do you know about God that you struggle to believe when challenges come?
3. Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble." What words would you use to describe your feelings about this statement? (comforting, defeating, realistic, etc.)
4. This passage reminds us of the 'already' and 'not yet' of the kingdom of God. In what ways has Jesus already overcome? How will he overcome in the future? (Consider: Romans 6:8-10, Hebrews 2:14, 1 John 3:8, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, Revelation 6:12-17, Revelation 17:12-14)
5. When challenging circumstances come, are you more prone to focus on the circumstances or to turn your focus on Christ? What is the result?
6. Read Matthew 28:20, John 14:27; 16:33, Philippians 4:6-7. Jesus tells us that His presence and peace are with us as a source of constant comfort in this world. How have you experienced His peace in the midst of the uncertainties in your life or our world right now?