

Grace Group Discipleship Guide



"How to Prevail After Betrayal"

For the week of July 1 - 7, 2018

Main Passages and Lessons:

Betrayal happens to all of us, and if not processed properly, it could lead to the destruction of our most valuable relationships. King David was betrayed by his trusted counselor, Ahithophel, and his own son, Absalom, who conspired together to overthrow him and take his throne. Jesus was betrayed by Judas, one of his 12 disciples, who embezzled money and conspired to have Him killed. God's Word shows us how to overcome betrayal righteously in order to prevail in our relationships.

"As for me, I call to God, and the LORD saves me. Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice." (Psalm 55:16-17)

"Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken." (Psalm 55:22)

- Continually call out to God in prayer. He hears us and promises to "save" (preserve, deliver, avenge) and sustain us.
- God's deliverance is not always immediate and we must remain faithful to Him in the process.
- Note: this promise is specifically for the "righteous," those who's trust is in God.

"Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.'" (Matthew 18:21-22 NKJV)

- Ask God for the strength to forgive the betrayer, just as God has forgiven us through Christ for our rebellion against Him.

(Turn over for continuation...)

- Don't wait for a "feeling" to forgive. Make a decision to forgive and keep on forgiving. Feelings will eventually follow.

*"Bless those who persecute you; **bless** and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. ²⁰On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.' ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:14-21)*

- We are encouraged to also "bless" those who have wronged us, thus demonstrating the gospel, trusting that God will avenge us and give us justice.

Reflection:

- Share a time in your life when you experienced betrayal. How did that affect you and the other relationships around you?
- The Bible tells us to "forgive" and to "bless" the ones who have betrayed us. How do you think that would practically look like in your life?

Application:

- Based on today's discussion, what do you think you can practically apply to your life when you feel you've been betrayed by those close to you?

Prayer:

- Pray for one another to draw strength from God to sustain and deliver them in the midst of betrayal.
- Pray for the strength to forgive and bless those who have betrayed us, just as God has forgiven and blessed us.
- Pray for one unreached friend or loved one who may be walking through a betrayal of their own.

To take your next step, text "NEXT" to (808) 427-0034

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