

## Grace Group Discussion Guide

For the week of July 22-28, 2018

### Main Thought and Passages:

The saying, "God helps those who help themselves" is misleading. It could lead us to think that we need to "make it on our own," or "pull ourselves up by our bootstraps." While we certainly need to work hard and be diligent, the pursuit of what we want could cause us to be disobedient and unfaithful to God. It could cause us to push Him aside in pursuit of what we want. The truth is, God helps those who obey Him and are faithful. David was anointed to be the King of Israel, yet he spent many more years obediently and faithfully serving the current, wicked king Saul, and as a shepherd over his father's sheep. Instead of trying to help himself by "seizing his own destiny" or "making it happen" on his own, David simply remained obedient and faithful to God, and God promoted him. God has a purpose and destiny for us all that He brings about as we are obedient and faithful to Him.

*"...seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things [what we need] will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33 NIV)*

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)*

*"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him..." (2 Chronicles 16:9 ESV)*

### Reflection:

- What stands out to you from the main thought and passages and why?
- When have you experienced God's help in your life as you remained obedient and faithful to Him? What happened and what did you learn?

### Application:

- What is one area of your life that God is challenging you to be faithful and obedient in right now? What practical steps can you take to be more obedient and faithful?

### Prayer:

- Pray for one another to be obedient and faithful to God in one specific area of challenge.
- Pray for one unreached friend or family member that they would come to trust in Jesus and experience His help in their lives as well.