**HOME GROUP GUIDE**

**November 24, 2019**

**Joshua 24:29-33**

**Sermon Title: More Memories**

**About this guide:**

This guide is provided to assist your home group in discussion and application of the most recent sermon. This guide provides direction for application-based discussion within a small group as well as discussion material. **Please know that the guide is not designed with the intent that every question be answered systematically**. Feel free to pick and choose the questions that fit your group and structure your time together using the guide to maximize your group’s benefit.

Notice organization of the guide: looking back, looking up and looking forward. “Looking back” is the time for the group to consider how the last week or two has gone, to share about struggles and victories. Consider choosing one or two items from this section to answer.

“Looking Up and Looking Forward” is a time to discuss the sermon and how the group might further apply the truth of God’s word, making specific plans individually and as a group to walk by faith in the week to come. This is also a time to encourage each other, minister to each other and pray for each other. Try to choose a couple elements from each section.

The guide also contains a family discipleship section with a few ideas on how to intentionally engage in following the Lord as a family.

**Looking back:**

* Share how you have been doing since you last met:
  + What biblical truths have been shaping your life and heart over the last week or so?
  + What has dominated your prayer life this week?
  + What was a “win” in your life this last week (something that happened that resulted in thankfulness, a moment of spiritual growth or victory, an answered prayer, etc.)?
  + What was the biggest challenge in your life this last week? Is there anything that you need to share with your home group in the form of confession?
* With whom were you able to begin to build a gospel bridge of conversation since the last time we met? With whom were you able to share the gospel message?
* How can the group help you in your life this next week?

**Looking Up and Looking Forward (Specific, Realistic, Measurable, Personal): Read Joshua 24**

Recap: Stories make up a significant piece of the Scriptures. We resonate with stories and we remember stories. Here at the end of the book of Joshua we see several stories that are simply referenced.

1. We see in verse 31 it said of Joshua that he led the people of Israel to serve the Lord all his days. He also impacted the elders in such a way that the work of the Lord was known among them.
   * What are some of the moments that Joshua would have instructed the people of Israel to remember about God’s work in their lives?
   * What are some of the moments in your own life that you want to remember about God’s work and faithfulness?
   * Revelation 12:11 speaks to the power of our stories and how the Lord can use those to the benefit of others. Who is someone you know that you have been impacted by the work of the Lord in their life? How have you encouraged others with their story?
   * What would keep you from taking your next step? Would it make a difference if you knew the Lord had already provided for your next step?
   * What are next steps in your life that you feel you need to take? How have you moved forward with taking those steps?
   * What are the ways you can contribute to FBG taking our next step as a church? How have you moved forward with taking those steps?
2. Every family has their own journey filled with experiences with the Lord and His faithfulness. We see in the opening chapters of Judges (the years following Joshua) that the people of Israel began to drift and Judges 2:10 says “there arose another generation after them (the elders) who did not know the Lord or the work that He had done for Israel.” It is a sobering reminder as to how easy it is for us to drift and forget the work of the Lord.
   * What are habits and rhythms that you have in your life to remind yourself of the work of the Lord?
   * We also have a responsibility to tell the works of the Lord to the next generation (Psalm 78:4). Who are the members of the next generation who intersect your path on a regular basis? Are you sharing the works of the Lord with them? How?
   * Stories are powerful teaching tools. Every family has a story. What are the ways you have found to be most effective in sharing your family’s stories with your kids or others who could benefit greatly from the work of the Lord? What is most difficult for you in sharing your story?
3. One day we all will pass away and we will leave behind the stories that have defined our lives. Once we pass we no longer have control over what is done with those stories. We also know that no matter our age, our health, or our vigor for life, that our days are numbered by the Lord (Job 14:5). We are not promised tomorrow (James 4:13,14). We must make a decision today and every day to declare the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.
   * What do you want people to say about you after you have passed away? How do you want to be remembered?
   * How does this determine and influence the way that you live your life?
   * These stories that are mentioned in Joshua 24:29-33, do you know their significance? If not, how would you grow in your understanding of them?
   * What are concrete and measurable steps you can take today to grow in your knowledge of the work of the Lord?

**Don’t forget:**

1. Pray for one another. Share one specific prayer request you need your group to pray each day until you meet again.
2. Pray for each of our campuses/venues: the Georgetown campus- Worship Center Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and Liberty Hill Campus at 11:00 a.m.
3. Pray for FBG families to be preparing for the Advent season. Ask the Lord to use this special season to help us be intentional with our families and others around us who don’t know Jesus.