



Winning

Part 1 – Not Alone

Discussion Guide

Many of us don't feel like we are "Winning" in life. We have broken relationships, bills to pay, and more questions than answers. Sometimes it feels like we are doing everything we can just to get through the day. Too often, we are simply trying to break even. However, when God shows up, we get to experience victory, power, and something greater than ourselves. We truly go on a journey of "Winning."

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God's truth and apply it to our week.

1. What is the greatest victory you've experienced in your life?
2. **Read [Joshua 1:1-6](#)**. What qualified Joshua for leading Israel across the Jordan and into the promised land? If we truly believe God is wiser, more capable, and bigger than us, why do we still choose our purposes over His? How have you chosen your own purposes over God's?
3. **Read [Proverbs 19:21](#)**. What is the difference between the plans that you make and the plans that God makes? What do God's purpose for Israel and His purpose for the Church today have in common? How can you position yourself in line with God's purpose for your life?
4. **Read [Ephesians 2:10](#)**. What is God's purpose in creating us? What good works do you think He has prepared for believers to do? How, specifically, has He created you, and are you using these special traits to accomplish His purpose?
5. Final Thought: **Read [Exodus 13:21](#)**. Why did God send a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire? Do you let God lead you, or do you tend to trust in your own plans? What do you need to let go of so that you can follow God?

Deeper

Israel went through a 40-year period of wandering and waiting! During our times of wandering or trial, we feel discouraged, confused, and often, alone. However, God was with Israel every step of the way. In this “Deeper” study, we will look at how God’s presence was evident in Israel’s situation and how we can take heart during our wandering and waiting.

6. **Read [Exodus 13:17-22](#)**. In what ways do we see God’s protection and commitment to Israel? What is the significance of Him using a cloud during the day and fire at night? In what ways have you overlooked or taken for granted God’s presence during your trial or waiting?

7. **Read [Joshua 3:3-9](#)**. What is Joshua and Israel’s attitude towards the ark and why is he so cautious with the ark (verse 4)? How is this indicative of their overall relationship with God? In what ways do you hold God holy and reverent and in what ways have you been too casual?

8. **Read [Exodus 30:22-33 and 1 John 2:27-29](#)**. Why have things changed so drastically from Exodus to 1 John? What does this reveal about God’s character and what he values? Since we know this is the same God in Exodus and 1 John, how should this change the way we live and our attitude toward God?