



Discussion Guide

11/19/2023

War With Grandpa

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Main Idea

Whether it's a new year in a new school or a move to a new house, change can be difficult. Our approach to change, however, is what makes all the difference. The choice is rarely WHAT you will walk through but rather HOW you will walk through it.

1. Faith isn't the absence of hardship.

God isn't surprised by your situation.

What "troubles" are you currently facing? How are they impacting your faith?

Read: John 16:33

2. Faith is the awareness that the presence of God is in the hardship with you.

It is in these moments - you know those unexpected or inconvenient ones - that we are often faced with a choice.

In what ways do you have confidence and hope, knowing that God has a plan to work things out?

Read: Romans 8:28

3. War and Peace.

Even though our competitions within our family and even with people we love can be fun and bonding, they CAN go too far and end up with tears and hurt feelings.

Who are you at war with? Who do you need to forgive?

Read: Psalm 34:14; Proverbs 15:1; Matthew 5:38-40

4. Make peace our pursuit.

Unresolved tension and arguments always leave collateral damage. We can't manipulate peace through bribery or a mediator. Rather, we must follow behind the peace of God and humbly surrender control.

How are you demonstrating the heart of God as you pursue peace? Who are you trying to "fix" that God wants you to release?

Read: Psalm 34:14; Philippians 4:6-7

5. Family is fundamental.

At Hope City, we're passionate about seeing our church walk in relationship with Christ and find a way to belong in His House. You are just one step away from being more than a spectator and finding an incredible group of like-minded believers passionately pursuing God's plan for their lives.

What type of group could you join? What dream team opportunity fits your passions and strengths? What serve project could you jump into?

Read: Psalm 68:6; Hebrews 10:25; Ecclesiastes 4:12

6. Jesus wins.

So often, the wars we're fighting, whether mentally, emotionally, physically, or spiritually, aren't actually with anyone else. Thankfully, the Bible gives us hope that our story doesn't have to end in this cycle.

What do you learn from reading Isaiah 55:3?

Read: Isaiah 53:5

SUMMARY

Sometimes the greatest trials in life lead to the greatest moments of growth. As you step into faith, God meets you every time. When you encounter strife and unrest with people in your life, instead of working so hard to "fix" it and "fix" the person, take it to God in prayer. His peace is enough to cover you both.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Spend some intentional time in worship and remember the hope you have in Jesus. Thank Him for all He has done this past year for you and your family.
2. Look for ways to make peace with those you have been experiencing tension with. Work to resolve any conflicts and practice forgiveness.
3. Consider all the options ([HC Groups](#), [Dream Team](#), [Serve projects](#)) of not just living in the house but doing life with the family.
4. Register to serve at our Hope For Christmas project. Click [HERE](#)

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Sticker Stalker

Materials needed: Pack of stickers. (This one is a great Christmas party game, so try to find stickers that suit the occasion.)

Give everyone one sheet of five to 10 stickers (or less, depending on the size of the group). This game works best during your hand-out time when everyone is mingling and having refreshments. Each person must discreetly place all their stickers on other group members; the first to use all their stickers wins. If they get caught stickering someone, they must accept a sticker. At the end of the evening, you can laugh about how sneaky some people are—and wonder how you ended up with stickers all over your back without even noticing.