

Discussion Guide for May 27, 2020

James 1:16-18

Suggested Hymn for family worship: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Introductory Discussion

For a moment think about the church James is writing to. The members have been under duress from persecutions. Some have faced severe financial pressures. Some of the members were likely ostracized by their own family members. The people were facing all sorts of awful things. The difficulties were tempting some to blame God for their bad circumstances. So James reminds his beloved brothers that God is not to be blamed and that God is always good. Even bad things can be a gift.

Discuss how we could be tempted to become upset and even angry with God when bad things happen.

How does Satan attack the truth that God is good all the time?
(Job 1:1-10)

What will you do in bad times to dwell in the goodness of God?

What good gifts can you thank God for tonight? You may want to make a list and share your list with each other.

Remember that there are things that appear to be bad that are actually God's gifts.
(Luke 17:11-19)

Children and Students Discussion Guide

It is a good practice to teach children the attributes of God. It is in knowing the greatness of God that children grow in their desire to know God. Children have a wide-eyed wonder of the world. God put in them a curiosity to learn and know about many things. The more you show them who God is the more curious they will become about His unsearchable greatness.

Spend time talking about some of God's attributes each week. Give children a taste of God's wonder and they will grow to hunger after the knowledge of God.

You can go little deeper with your teens. Think about picking up a good resource to help you discuss God's attributes regularly. Here are a few books to help you with the discussion of God:

God by Arthur Pink

God is Awesome by Tony Evans

Deeper Study:

The Existence and Attributes of God by Stephen Charnock (Two Volumes)

Behold your God, Rethinking God Biblically by John Snyder.

https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/ behold-your-god-rethinking-god-biblically-daily-devotional-workbook/3228685/item/11238693/?mkwid=127b8FhW%7cdc&pcrid=70112888472&product=11238693&plc=&pgrid=21326625792&ptaid=pla-357350159023&utm_source=google_shopping&utm_content=127b8FhW%7cdc%7cpcrid%7c70112888472%7cpcpw%7c%7cpmt%7c%7cproduct%7c11238693%7csli d%7c%7cpgrid%7c21326625792%7cptaid%7cpla-357350159023%7c&gclid=EAlaIQobChMI9LHikIjU6QIVUMDICh0CdGHB EAQYAiABEgJRKfD_BwE#isbn=0988668122&idq=11238693

Missionary of the Week

Guillermo and Myra Aguilar (Nicaragua)

My wife and I both got saved at an early age but dedicated our lives to the Lord in our youth. God called us to serve Him and after getting married in 1989, we both decided to go and study the Word of God at the Word of Life Bible Institute in Argentina, a ministry which had a great impact in our lives.

In 1991 my wife and I were studying God's Word at the WOL B.I., when we decided to serve God full time as missionaries. Then, He called us to serve in Costa Rica, our home country. For fourteen years the Lord allowed us to enjoy serving in that country, with people who were such a great blessing to us, that God put together for the great task that in that time we were able to accomplish by His Grace. For years we thought that was the place in which we

were going to serve for the rest of our lives, and we were thankful for that.

However, in 2002 the Lord began to lay a burden both in my heart and in my wife's heart, for the country of Nicaragua, and an increasing desire to go and serve Him in that place. It always called my attention during those years, that Nicaragua was one of the only two countries in Central America (Belize is the other one), to not yet have the WOL Ministry, even though it is a country wide open for the Gospel. Years went by and no one ever faced the challenge. We had the opportunity to be part of several WOL evangelistic trips there and God really touched our hearts with the need of the youth and the possibilities to do ministry. When we realized that there was no one there doing what Word of Life does, we began to ask God to give us the opportunity to serve Him there. So we began to pray, and shared our desire with our authorities. After witnessing how God led things His way and in His time, on December 17th, 2006, our directors officially told us that we were approved to go to Nicaragua to start the Word of Life Ministry. Brothers and sisters, you can't imagine the joy in our hearts of seeing God work in His timing and His giving us such a huge challenge, of which we know we are not worthy.

We finally arrived to Managua on October 30th, 2007. It has been the best time of our lives serving God here the last 13 years, and we are deeply thankful to God for this enormous blessing. Andrea and Valerie, our daughters, both fell in love with this Country and its people, and we enjoy every minute here. God is allowing us to disciple young boys and girls, to preach the Gospel and teach the Word.

God has blessed us with a wonderful team of 15 Nicaraguan missionaries whom He allowed us to disciple and train, and a wonderful property where we are holding most of our camps, sports events, training conferences and hosting mission teams.

We couldn't think of anything better to do. Praise the Lord for this wonderful opportunity and please pray for us as we continue to help build our part of the body of Christ in Nicaragua.

Guillermo, Mayra, Andrea and Valerie Aguilar
Col. 1:10

