

A Cross Shadow Productions Film

Pray 3D



The
Storm

FAITH CONQUERS FEAR

“Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night...if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you.” Psalm 91:5,10

We've prepared a follow-up Bible Study & Discussion Guide for Student Ministers or small group leaders who want to challenge their students to go deeper. In this Leader's Guide, we've supplied all you need to get going including suggested answers, when appropriate, to help you in your study.

Each topic is broken down into 3 sections: Discussion Starters, Examining The Word, and Digging Deeper follow-up questions. We hope you enjoy the movie, and pray that you find this companion Bible Study & Discussion Guide helpful. May God bless you as you study His Word!

You've seen the movie - Now talk about it!

1. Greeting the Day

Discussion Starter:

In Pray 3D, we see Laurie Curtis get up and start her day after having two nightmares in a row. We can bet that after a night like that,

she didn't sleep too well! How would you feel waking up and facing the upcoming day after a night like that?



Examining The Word:

The Bible says that everyday is a gift from God. Whether we are healthy, sick, tired, the weather is nice, or it is pouring down rain. Psalm 118:24 says, “This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.” And in Acts 17:25 (NLT) it says, “...He (The Lord) himself gives life and breath to everything, and He satisfies every need.”

Digging Deeper:

Many times we wake up in the mornings and focus on the list of things that we have to do for the day. This week, instead of dreading the things that might happen and thinking about all of the things that you have to accomplish, try something different. Start your day off thanking God for giving you another day of life, and spend some time each morning with him in His Word. You will be surprised how different your attitude will be and your day will go!

2. Past Discussions



Discussion Starter:

During Laurie Curtis' Bible study, the ladies briefly talk about their past. One of the ladies asked Mrs. Preston and Laurie, "with what the two of you had been through, how did you get by and were you not scared?" At times, it's easy to dwell on the past events of our lives. Sometimes it can be those events in our lives that can hold us back from trying new things or doing the things in life that we need to be doing. Has anything ever happened to you that you thought you might not get through it? How did you deal with it during that time, and how do you deal with it now looking back at it?

Examining the Word:

The following Bible verse is quoted by one of the ladies in the Bible Study scene: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear; but a spirit of power, of love, and of sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7.

Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us that the Lord is always looking out for us, no matter what happens. It says: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

What do these verses mean to you and what encouragement can you draw from them?

Digging Deeper:

In the New Testament, Jesus tells us nine times, "Do not worry". Read Matthew 6:25-34 and discuss what you just read as a group. Proverbs 12:25 says, "Worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up." (NLT) And in Luke 12:25-26 we read: "Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And if worry can't accomplish a little thing like that, what's the use of worrying over bigger things?" (NLT)

Ask each person in your group to silently add up how many minutes they spend each day worrying over things (large or small). How many minutes do we waste every day? Ten minutes? Thirty? More? Now challenge each person to spend those same minutes giving their worries to the Lord in prayer instead. Encourage them with this verse from 1 Peter 5:7 "Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you." (NLT) What an awesome promise!

3. Relationships - The Right Way:



Discussion Starter:

In the movie, Allyson's new boyfriend, Jack, comes over to hangout. Without the permission of Mrs. Curtis and without any knowledge from Allyson's parents about them going out, Jack attempts to come inside, uninvited. To you, what is the right way to start a relationship? (*Meeting parents first, going out in groups of friends, going to church together?*)

Examining The Word:

Ask someone to read 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 aloud. "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?" Many times, Student Ministers will hear a student try to defend dating a non-Christian by saying, "I can be a witness to them! I'm being a good example for him/her." This dating tactic has often (and humorously) been called "Missionary Dating". So what do you think? Is "Missionary Dating" supported in Scripture? Read 2 Cor. 6:14-15 again now, and compare your answers.

Digging Deeper:

Do you believe that God has the perfect "someone" planned for your life? Read the Story of Isaac and Rebekah in Genesis 24 and talk about it. (*Abraham was getting old and was worried about his son, Isaac. They were surrounded by Canaanites and Abraham didn't want Isaac to marry someone who might influence him or his children to become idol worshippers. So God provided Rebekah, a faithful servant of God, for Isaac to marry.*)

What about those who are called to remain single? Read 1 Corinthians 7 and see what the Apostle Paul says about the topic. The Bottom Line: Honor God first and seek His guidance for your life, then wait on Him. He will guide you in all areas, including relationships.

4. Storms of Life



Discussion Starter:

In the movie, the power goes out and Sloan and Allyson realize that a tornado is hitting the small town that they are in. As the tornado sirens are blaring, they both head upstairs to check on the kids, but not before the front door bursts open from the wind. You're most likely not going to have a tornado coming directly at you, but sometimes it can feel like it at that moment. In the stressful, scary, maybe even seemingly hopeless situations, who is the first person that you turn to for help? (A *parent, pastor, friend, God?*)

Examining The Word:

Have someone read Isaiah 40:31 and Proverbs 23:18 aloud. "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (NIV) Proverbs 23:18 says, "There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off." (NIV)

Have the group talk about what these verses mean to them.

Digging Deeper:

Sometimes in hard situations, the last place we often turn to is God, when He is the One who we need to be turning to first. Philippians 4:6-7 says, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything." Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Challenge the group to write down a list of their current worries – make it a prayer list. When you are done, quietly pray over each one of them. Keep that list and pray over each one of those items this week. Consider checking off the items listed when that worry has become a prayer answered.

5. Calming the Fear



Discussion Starter:

What are some things that you are most scared of? (*Is it spiders, rodents, snakes, storms, the boogeyman, or maybe the fear of the unknown?*)

Examining The Word:

The Bible says in Psalm 91, “He who dwells in the Shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. He will shelter you with wings... Do not be afraid of the terrors of night, if you make the most High your Shelter, no evil will conquer you.” If time allows, read all of Psalm 91 and discuss.

Digging Deeper:

In Pray 3D, young Maryn is scared of the storm going on outside and needs a little reassurance in order to fall asleep. Sloan shares the above bible verse that she learned as a child that always made her feel safe and secure. Do you have a bible verse that helps reassure you when you are scared, or unsure of something? Have volunteers in the group share their verses.

6. Deception & Fear

****SPOILER ALERT****



Discussion Starter: In the movie, Sloan disappears for a few minutes and Allyson starts searching around the house for her. After a few minutes of searching and growing more afraid by the second, Sloan finally jumps out and scares her with a frightening mask on. What does it mean to you to be deceived? Do you think either of them knew how close to real danger they really were? How often do you think you have been close to danger, but the Lord protected you?

Examining The Word:

It has been said that the word “fear” can also be an acronym for: **F**alse **E**vidence **A**ppearing **R**eal. Satan often masquerades as a false “Angel of Light” and is the author of confusion, chaos, and deceit. The devil will manipulate your circumstances, feelings, and mindset to try and make you fearful and discouraged. However, the good news is for those who know Christ, they have victory over the enemy! Have someone read Hebrews 13:6 aloud. “So we can say with confidence, ‘The LORD is my helper, so I will have no **fear**. What can mere people do to me?’” Always remember: Faith Conquers Fear!

Digging Deeper:

Many times in life, people can and will hurt or deceive us in one way or another. It hurts even more when it’s the people close to us such as our friends and family. As Christians, the Bible says we are to respond differently when we are angry and hurt than unbelievers do. So that they may know us not only by our talk, but also by the way we live our lives. Ephesians 4:26-27(MSG) says “Go ahead and be angry. You do well to be angry—but don’t use your anger as fuel for revenge. And don’t stay angry. Don’t go to bed angry. Don’t give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life.” Share with the group, what are some things that you can do, or that you have done in the past, to get over the anger and hurt. Have you forgiven them? If not, consider praying about it tonight and doing so this week.

7. Sacrifice

****SPOILER ALERT****

Discussion Starter:

Who do you consider to be a hero? What would you define as a true sacrifice?



Examining The Word:

Have someone read the verses below and discuss:

John 15:13 (NIV) "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Galatians 1:4 (MSG) "...Jesus Christ rescued us from this evil world we're in by offering himself as a sacrifice for our sins. God's plan is that we all experience that rescue. Glory to God forever!"

Digging Deeper:

At the end of the movie, the shape is looking for the babysitters and the children. Little Maryn asks a question and "The Shape" hears her. Knowing that the children are now in danger, Sloan leaves her safe hiding spot and confronts "The Shape", telling him to take her, instead. Now, with "The Shape" distracted and chasing after Sloan, the children and Allyson are safe. We also see Laurie Curtis risk her life by jumping out of the car outside of the police barricade. She knows that there are downed power lines, but the desire to get to her children and the babysitters is stronger, and she eventually ends up rescuing Sloan. How do these examples of self-sacrifice remind you of what Jesus did for us on the cross? Modern day heroes are often projected by Hollywood as someone who has to be in armor, who can fly, or who has superhuman strength. But would you consider someone of moral or biblical characteristics a hero? How about someone who stands up for his or her beliefs? Think about it.

It takes supernatural strength to stand up for your beliefs in a society like ours today.

Jesus died on the cross and took the sins of the people of the world so that you could, not only live in Heaven with Him one day, but also experience abundant life today! He did this because He loves you so much and He doesn't want to see you live in eternity alone and in pain, something that all of us honestly deserve. Jesus was, and still is, the greatest hero of all time. He willingly paid the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Additional Notes for Youth Leaders:

Spend a few minutes ending your time together in prayer. Specifically thank God for being our substitute by sending Jesus to die for our sins. Before praying, remember to challenge those in your group to make sure each person has chosen to accept this gift of life that Jesus offers.

Here are a few bible verses for you to share and discuss with your group:

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (1 John 4:10).

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

Romans 10:9 says, "...it is with your *heart* that you believe and are justified, and it is with your *mouth* that you confess and are saved."

In John 1:12 the Bible says, “Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

Once we accept Him, we are forever His child! If you are uncertain about your relationship with God, take a moment right now to believe in Him and to confess that you will follow Him with your life.

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