## STONEBRIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



<u>Note to the Host:</u> Thanks for leading your group, creating community, and caring for your people! Remember, is your group, and you have the freedom to navigate the conversation that best fits your group's dynamic. People come first!

## **ICEBREAKER:**

Who in your life has always shown up for you? How has this person shown up and what impact did it have on your life?

In this lesson, we will look at God being present in our trials and showing up in unexpected ways for a greater good.

## TALK IT OVER:

These questions are based off the sermon that took place on Sunday. Feel free to revisit any of the scripture that was discussed in the message. Answer as many questions as your time allows; don't feel pressed to get through all of them.

- 1. How do you usually address trials in your life? What do you think do and say?
- 2. God is with us through our trials. See how God was with Joseph as he travelled and met his brothers. Read Genesis 37:18-28 and describe Joseph's trial by listing the various ideas the brothers had for getting rid of him. How do you see God's presence in this part of the story?
- 3. Later Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the captain of the royal guard of the pharaoh. Read Genesis 39:2, 5-6. What unexpected paths did God provide for Joseph?
- 4. Have you ever had God show up in your life in unexpected ways? Have you seen him show up in the lives of others? What are some examples?

- 5. Because God was with Joseph, his suffering turned out for something greater. According to Genesis 45:4-8 and 50:20, what were the outcomes for Joseph's relationship with his brothers and for the people of Israel? Have you ever seen God take a trial in your life and turn it into a greater good? Share the story with your group.
- 6. What do we learn about God from Isaiah 55:8? How does truth apply to Joseph's situation? How could it apply to your trials?
- 7. Read Romans 8:28. What do we learn about God's plans? What does this personally mean to you? How should it affect our response to trials?
- 8. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18. What encouragement do you find in these verses when facing difficult circumstances?
- 9. What might you need to do to start looking at trials through God's eyes? Consider your thought process, Bible reading and prayer life.
- 10. How might you use what you have learned in this lesson to help other Christian friends and family?

## PRAYER:

Please don't stress about the time of prayer, pray we can see that healing came however your group feels comfortable. This can either be one person pray, or you can go in a circle and have each person pray a few sentences. Be sure to change it up so your prayer time stays fresh in your group!

- Make sure that everyone has a chance to share!
- Encourage all praise reports! Celebrate what God has done!
- Have someone record and distribute the requests to your group, to pray over throughout the week.

Week #4, June 22, 2025