

Small Group Study Questions

As you reflect on the sermon from this week, was there anything you heard for the first time? Was there something said that challenged you or confused you?

Getting to Know You

1. When you face challenges, would you describe yourself as a “glass-half-empty” or a “glass-half-full” type of person? How does that influence how you respond to disappointments?

Digging Deeper

Our Big Idea this week is **belief must outweigh disappointment**. The path Jesus has for us may not be what we want initially, but it is the path that leads us to what we need the most. The following passages include several other encounters Jesus had with people that showed them that, regardless of any disappointment in this life, he offered them hope for eternity.

2. Read Luke 18:18–30 and answer the following questions.

How would you evaluate the ruler’s question to Jesus? (v.18)

Although the ruler said that he had kept all of the commandments since he was young, what was the one aspect of his heart that Jesus identified he was still holding back? What was the ruler’s response to Jesus’ invitation?

After Peter declared that he and the other disciples had left their homes to follow him, what did Jesus assure them about the choice they made? Did they have any reason to be disappointed about their decision? Why or why not?

3. Read Luke 9:23–27 and answer the following questions.

How would you describe Jesus’ invitation in verse 23? What do you think it means for a person to “take up their cross”?

How do Jesus’ words in verses 24–25 show you that the cost of following him is worth it?

According to Jesus, what priority should he have in our lives? Why?

