

Discussion Guide

Trustfully (How to Give #5)

Week of Oct 17, 2021

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Group. The point of this guide is not to “get through the questions” (there’s no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

Icebreaker (Optional)

Would you rather:

- Visit the doctor or the dentist?
- Go on a beach vacation or mountain vacation?
- Be able to make yourself invisible or be able to read minds?

Discussion

Open to 1 Kings 17

At the start of 1 Kings 17, the prophet Elijah tells King Ahab that God was going to send a drought. The drought begins in verse 7, and we learn in 1 King 18:2 the drought was severe. In fact, it affected the people so much, it led some to the brink of starvation (as we’ll see in today’s reading).

Read 1 Kings 17:8-16 (Feel free to split among two or three readers)

1. Take a moment to recap the story. What stands out? What causes you to pause? What questions do you have?

2. Our topic this week is “giving trustfully.” How did the widow give trustfully? Who directed the widow to give? (Interesting note: Sidon was not a Jewish territory, meaning this widow was most likely a Gentile (see her response to Elijah in verse 12)).

Read 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

3. In 2 Corinthians 9:8-11, we read that God “enriches” those who give trustfully. How do we see this truth in 1 Kings 17?

Going Deeper (Optional)

4. Compare the widows in 1 Kings 17:8-16 & Mark 12:41-44.

Making it Personal

5. Widows were often overlooked, rarely seen as prominent citizens. Yet the widow in 1 King 17 is held up like a hero. How might God be calling you to be more like this widow? What holds you back from trusting like she did?

Memory Verse

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.” (John 14:1 NIV)

Prayer

As you close in prayer, thank God for His indescribable gift of salvation through Jesus (2 Corinthians 9:15). Then ask Him to help you give in faith.