



Week 3

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

In the series, *God at the Movies*, we will look at modern day movies, and even a tv series, to help us understand spiritual truth. Today, we are going to look at *The Mandalorian*.

Discussion Questions

The Mandalorian is the story of a bounty hunter who long lived on his own. The main character, known as 'Mando', was not born to notoriety and wealth and had a very challenging childhood. Both his parents were lost in a battle, and a group of warriors called "The Mandalorians" rescued him. Most of his life, he lived for his own purposes and pursuits.

Mando is a man of high intentionality and can easily relate to Saul in the book of Acts. They're both passionate, intentional, and driven with purpose. They are both determined to complete the job set before them with little or no concern for anyone who gets in their way. Saul was a member of the religious group, the Sanhedrin, who persecuted Christians. Just like Mando, you could label Saul as a bounty hunter as well. **Acts 8:3** says, "As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison."

Saul came to a major turning point in his life in **Acts 9:1-6**. Saul had an encounter with Jesus, and his life was forever changed.

- Have you ever had an encounter with Jesus that had a major impact on your life?

Mando had a turning point in his life and began to engage in a greater purpose. Just like Mando, Saul went from living for himself to living for something far greater. After his conversion, Saul (who became Paul) was baptized and grew in his faith as he spent time with the disciples in Damascus. He began preaching Jesus Christ as the Messiah in the same synagogues he once was out to destroy.

As we look at Paul and Mando, we learn that we have the ability to change the storyline of our lives. Life change is rooted in God, but it begins with us. It starts with choosing Christ instead of continuing to choose to live in destructive and misdirected ways.

When we choose the way of truth instead of the world's ways, we will face many challenges. Both Mando and Paul faced many battles after their transformation. In order to overcome the challenges we face as Christians, we must persevere. The Holy Spirit can give us supernatural strength from the presence of Jesus.

- Give an example of a challenge you've had as a result of being a Christian. How did you overcome that challenge?
- What are some ways we can persevere through life's obstacles?

Through Mando's quest to do what was right, he built a band of brothers and sisters that joined together for a common cause. We can see this lesson play out in the life of Paul as well. In **Acts 13** we see the beginning of Paul's missionary journeys, and he didn't do it alone.

"As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, 'Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away." (Acts 13:2)

Paul was highly intentional in his relationships with his spiritual brothers and sons. Mando and Paul both knew they were better and stronger with other people.

- Why is it important to grow in community with other people?
- How does growing in community help you connect with God?

Life Challenge

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you this week as challenges come your way. Pray about someone you would be comfortable opening up to and ask them to speak into your life when the world's pressures come your way.

Prayer

God, thank You for always providing a way. Thank You for being our guide and our source. Give us the strength to always choose You when challenges come our way. Provide us with others in our lives that will encourage us when we encounter obstacles. Amen.
Pray for the specific needs of the group.