



## Responding In Crisis

### DISCUSSION GUIDE

#### Overview

In this message called, *Responding In Crisis*, we will learn how to persevere through difficult times.

#### Discussion Questions

When we go through tough seasons, we experience crisis, loss, and disappointment, followed by fear. When we experience loss and disappointment, we have the opportunity to get stuck and paralyzed in our faith. Every crisis has a loss attached, and we can choose how we will respond in these difficult times. It can be used as a catalyst for growth and change or a blockade to hinder our progress.

#### Three Keys to Responding in Crisis:

1. Never forget, God is with you.

**Joshua 1:5** says, “**No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.**” Just like God was with Joshua during a crisis, He is also with us.

Because of the fallen world we live in, the enemy will lie to us during a crisis and make us believe that God is absent. But according to God’s Word, He promises to never abandon us. Crisis doesn’t indicate God’s distance; it’s an invitation to His nearness.

- Share a time when God met you in the middle of a crisis.
- How can we show the love of Jesus to others during a crisis? Why is this important?

2. Do it afraid.

When we walk in the truth that God is for us, we can step out in faith and do it afraid. We can be bold and decisive instead of surrendering to our fears. **Joshua 1:7** says, “**Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not**

**turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.”**

When we face uncertainty, crises, and change, we often ask ourselves if we are ready or good enough. God can give us courage to move forward. Courage is a quality of mind or spirit that enables us to meet danger, opposition, or the challenges of life with calmness and firmness. Having courage is not being absent of fear. Courage is having peace amidst times of fear and uncertainty. If we have courage, we may still feel afraid, but through the power of God, we can act with confidence.

Fear is a crippling emotion. God never intended for us to be afraid of our future. Although we may feel afraid at times, we should never let fear control us. God is with us, and He will give us the courage to accomplish all that He’s called us to do.

- Why can it be challenging to have courage and step out in faith?
- How can we be strong instead of surrendering to our fears?

3. Remember to refuel.

**Joshua 1:8** says, **“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”**

When we become frustrated, exhausted, and depleted, it becomes easy to complain and be fearful. It’s important that we “refuel” with God’s Word and focus our thoughts and conversations on faith, hope, life, and joy.

- What are some practical ways we can remain peaceful and steady when chaos surrounds us?
- Why is it important to be consistent in reading and learning from God’s Word daily?

## **Life Challenge**

Find a verse that speaks to you and meditate on it. Go throughout your day saying , “God, according to Joshua 1:6, I am strong and courageous... According to Psalm 3:3, You’re a shield around me...” Speak God’s Word over your life, meditate on it, and watch how you begin to prosper and have good success.

## **Prayer**

*Thank You, Jesus, that we can turn to You in times of crisis. Help us to remember Your promises when we feel abandoned and afraid. Give us strength and help us to keep persevering. Amen.* Pray for the specific needs of the group.