

Life Group Discussion Guide

Air: Courting a Legend

July 26 and 27, 2025

2 Samuel 22:29-30 (ESV)

²⁹For You are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. ³⁰For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.

Isaiah 40:28-31 (ESV)

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to Him who has no might He increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Question #1

"I can accept failure; everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying" (Michael J. Jordan). In the texts above we find both the actions of God and the actions of those who trust Him. God is a lamp and by His power we can do great things (**2 Samuel**). He renews our strength. Isaiah speaks of the human response of *mounting up, running, and walking (Isaiah 40)*. Despite how many times you may have failed in life, in what ways are you still *trying*?

2 Kings 6:15-17 (ESV)

¹⁵When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" ¹⁶He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Ezekiel 37:1-7 (ESV)

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord

GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.” ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

Question #2

“Ask God for vision and He can help you see what others miss, and He can lead you where others won’t look” (Pastor T.K. Anderson). Consider what kinds of things you can do to put yourself in a position to see what God wants you to see. In your life as a believer, has God ever gifted you the privilege of seeing things He wanted you to see that you could not see before? What did this do for your faith?

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.

Matthew 19:23-26 (ESV)

²³And Jesus said to His disciples, “Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁵When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” ²⁶But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Question #3

“Sometimes you have to stop testing the waters and just jump. There are moments when real faith looks a lot like risk; and without that kind of faith, you might miss what God wants to do through you” (Pastor T.K. Anderson). No faith, impossibilities. With faith, possibilities open up. What are some things that might hold you back from walking faithfully with God into unfamiliar territory?

James 2:17 (ESV)

¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Nehemiah 1:1-3, 11; 4:15-18 (ESV)

¹The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, ²that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. ³And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."...¹¹O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." Now I was cupbearer to the king...

^{4:15} When our enemies heard that it was known to us and that God had frustrated their plan, we all returned to the wall, each to his work. ¹⁶From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and coats of mail. And the leaders stood behind the whole house of Judah, ¹⁷who were building on the wall. Those who carried burdens were loaded in such a way that each labored on the work with one hand and held his weapon with the other. ¹⁸And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built. The man who sounded the trumpet was beside me.

Question #4

The story of Nehemiah is a classic, biblical example of faith being shown *with* works. The walls of Jerusalem were broken down, Nehemiah prayed about it and asked God for help in the renewed construction. Then, when enemies came to disrupt the rebuilding efforts, his faith in action can be seen in **Nehemiah 4:15-18**. Discuss and explain what your tendencies are when you pray to God. Do you simply wait for Him to respond or while waiting you put into action those things you can do in the meantime?

John 5:1-3,5-8 (ESV)

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed...⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" ⁷The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk."

Question #5

Think through a particular thing you hope to and perhaps have been wanting to accomplish. Have you been waiting too long to move? Have you been, figuratively speaking, waiting for someone to put you in the water [Jn. 5:7]? What steps can you take right now, by *getting up, taking up your bed, and walking*, by faith?

Step One	_____	Step Four	_____
Step Two	_____	Step Five	_____
Step Three	_____	Step Six	_____

Proverbs 24:15-16 (ESV)

¹⁵Lie not in wait as a wicked man against the dwelling of the righteous; do no violence to his home;¹⁶for the righteous falls seven times and rises again, but the wicked stumble in times of calamity.

Job 5:19 (ESV)

¹⁹He will deliver you from six troubles; in seven no evil shall touch you.

Psalms 37:23-24 (ESV)

²³The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in His way;
²⁴though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.

Question #6

"Are you someone who talks big but never takes that step? Are you someone who dreams constantly but lets fear or excuses win the day? Or are you the kind of person who may fall but refuses to stay down?" (Pastor T.K. Anderson) Many texts, including the ones above, show the perseverance of those in Christ, and show how it is God who sustains us. Are you ready to go back to the Lord, asking for strength to overcome, knowing He will help?

Five-Day Devotional

Day 1: First Quarter (The Faith to Believe there is a **Way**)

Scripture: Read **Isaiah 30:21**

²¹Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left. (NASB)

In order for us to recognize the voice of God when we hear it, we must spend time with Him and grow accustomed to, and be able to differentiate between His voice and all others. Babies have the ability to separate the voice of their mother and father from anyone else. Be encouraged to read His word every day with the express intention of not checking it off as a task, but of simply getting to know Him better.

Reflection: *Lord, I believe I will see the way in which You want me to go, if I sit down and listen to You more. Father, help me this week, to be much more intentional to make You and the reading of Your word a priority above all other things on my schedule.*

Day 2: Second Quarter (The Faith to See What Others **Overlook**)

Scripture: Read **2 Corinthians 4:17-18**

¹⁷For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. (NASB)

"One of the greatest blessings you and I possess as followers of Jesus, is His wisdom and His mind. Through Jesus we have a new perspective, new eyes, and a new outlook. There are things we are being divinely equipped to understand that the unbelieving world cannot comprehend". (John Stange)

Reflection: *O Magnificent King, give me eyes to see, ears to hear, hands to do, a heart to sense, a mind to discern, and a mouth to speak of the greatness of Your Name! Help me to use all that You have revealed to me in order to reveal You to those around me.*

Day 3: Third Quarter (The Faith to Take a **Risk**)

Scripture: Read **Ecclesiastes 11:1-2,4**

¹Cast your bread on the surface of the waters, for you will find it after many days.

²Divide your portion to seven, or even to eight, for you do not know what misfortune may occur on the earth...⁴He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap. (NASB)

Our walk with Christ requires both a high level of utter dependence *and* a willingness to invest all we have in Him. We can't depend on God for everything and then in turn not give Him everything. This is so contrary to the way the world views wise investing. We are told to not put all our eggs in one basket, for example. But with God, we bet it all, putting in all the chips, so to speak.

Reflection: *Lord, I pray that you break within me any remnant of stinginess or hesitancy to give myself to You. Help me, today, to begin to live out the call to sacrifice myself wholly (**Rom. 12:1**).*

Day 4: Fourth Quarter (The Faith to Overcome **Opposition**)

Scripture: Read **Romans 8:37-39**

³⁷But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NASB)

The fourth quarter is the last segment of a basketball game (barring a tie). And as we approach the conclusion of our lives here on this earth, we want our Maker to be well pleased with how we lived (**Matt. 25:23**). In the text above, we see the idea of us being conquerors through Him who loved us. This should give us encouragement in knowing we *will* overcome; no matter what happened in the first three quarters, we will win!

Reflection: *Walking with You, Lord, gives me confidence. I know even when I don't always get things right, because I have entrusted my life to You, and especially because You never fail, then I won't fail either!*

Day 5: Overtime (The Faith to Not Rest in Your **Blessings**)

Scripture: Read **Philippians 3:7-9**

⁷But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, ⁹and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith, (NASB)

You have experienced great success in Christ; and? You have witnessed to many who have come to faith; awesome. You have degrees and were at the top of your graduating class; kudos to you! What do those things or any thing else that brought us accolades do for us? We neither need nor can rely on the faith of yesterday, but need a *right now faith* to deal with what lies right before our very eyes.

Reflection: *O Mighty King, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, thank You for increasing my faith, by showing to me over the years how faithful You are! Help me now to return to You for the power I need to do Your will, for today. Help me to not look at what I've done for You in the past, and in some way give myself credit for it. It was You who did great things in and through me; and if I am to do anything of worth in the future, it will be You once again who should receive the glory for it.*