

CROPPED

#mc3cropped



Discussion
Gu'ide

"EMPOWERED"

01/08/17

The Point:

Cropped: God Can Make Me Do Anything I Want! Completed: God Helps in Hardship

The Repeats (required)

Yes, they are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our “antennae up”, to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past few weeks.
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

The Review (optional)

Use this section only if you want to review for those who were not in the Point

- Have someone explain the Point in their own words.*
- What object lesson or illustration was used to communicate the Point this week? How did this apply to the Point?*
- Have someone read or summarize the main Bible passage/story from the Point (see “The References” section).
- How did this Bible passage teach the Point?*

**someone who was in the Point may need to explain this*

The Reenergizer (optional)

Use this question if you need to get your group talking

- Which comic book superhero would you most want to be and why?

The Reflection (required)

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- What are some Bible verses that you have heard used out of context, that have been cropped to make it say what someone wants?
- Read Philippians 4:13 only. How have you heard this verse used?
- Read Philippians 4:11-14. *In context*, what does verse 13 teach?
- Why do you think it's important to study the Bible in context? What are the advantages? What are the problems if we don't use context?
- This passage teaches that God will help us in our hardships. How does that encourage you?
- Take a moment to review these verses from the Point and discuss how they relate to Philippians 4:13. In hardship, we need to remember:
 - Genesis 39:20-21: God is Present in Our Troubles
 - Romans 5:6: God is Perfect in His Timing
 - 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10: God is Powerful in Our Weakness
- Which of these is the most comforting for you and why?
- Go around the room and have each person share which of these three promises they need to remember in times of hardship (which may be right now!). As each person shares, assign someone else to pray for that person at the end. Close with a prayer time, having the assigned people pray for the others either silently or out loud.

The References

Main Passage: Philippians 4:11-14 (NIV84)

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.

Genesis 39:20-21 (NIV)

Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the kings' prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.

Romans 5:6 (NIV)

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

2 Corinthians 12:7b-10 (NIV)

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.