

Part 4

Introduction

This week we heard from attenders of Access about God's role in their lives.

Scripture Readings & Discussion

1. Sharing Our Stories

- 1. Each person in this week's testimonies faced hardships—some expected, some unexpected. What part of their stories resonated most with you? Why?
- 2. In Job 1:20-21, Job responds to his suffering by worshiping God. Have you ever experienced a moment when worship felt difficult in the midst of hardship? What did you do?

2. Finding Strength in Weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

- 1. "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."
- 2. Paul describes delighting in his weaknesses because they reveal God's strength. How did you see this principle in the testimonies shared?
- 3. What does it look like to embrace God's grace when life feels overwhelming?

3. God's Purpose in Hardship (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

- 1. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)
- 2. Looking back at your own life, can you see a time when God worked something good out of a difficult situation? How does that change the way you approach future hardships?
- 3. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 reminds us to fix our eyes on eternal things. How can we practically apply that perspective in our daily struggles?

4. Carrying Each Other's Burdens (Galatians 6:2)

- 1. "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."
- 2. Several testimonies emphasized the importance of community and relationships in difficult seasons. How can we be more intentional about supporting others during their hardships?
- 3. Who in your life needs encouragement right now? What practical step can you take this week to be the hands and feet of Jesus for them?

5. Beginning with the End in Mind

- 1. Gary shared how he strives to "begin with the end in mind." What does it mean to live with eternity in focus?
- 2. If you were to write "your song" of faith right now, what would it say? How do you want it to sound in the future?

Closing Reflection & Prayer

- Take a moment to reflect: Is there a part of your story that you need to surrender to God today?
- Pray together, asking God for the strength to trust Him in hardships, the grace to see His goodness in all things, and the wisdom to encourage others in their journeys.