



## Life Group Discussion Questions

January 5, 2025

\*\*\* This guide intentionally has more questions than your group could reasonably discuss in one meeting. Feel free to pick and choose questions that best encourage, challenge, and instruct your particular participants.

Read Psalm 147.

1. Storms come in many forms. Some are ice and snow, and some are pain, sorrows, attacks from without, and trials of life. What does Psalm 57 teach us about the storms that come our way?

2. Storms and trials should point us to praise the creator and look to our future hope of glory. Romans 8:18 says much about creation “groaning”, having “birth pangs”, and “being set free from the bondage of corruption.” How can we turn a storm into an opportunity to praise God in anticipation of our redemption and heavenly bliss?

3. James 1:2-16 is a familiar passage. It deals with our response to trials, faith, endurance and a right attitude toward God. This passage tells that “every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...”. How can we see storms and trials as a gift of God for our good? Do we truly believe He is Sovereign and Good and Altogether Righteous? Do we think about this only when everything is “right” in the world and when everything is going our way? How can we focus our praise, thanks and trust toward God even when the ice and snow come and bring things to a halt?

*love God. love Others. serve the World.*



4. Read Job 38. It is a great reminder of God's creative power. God reminds Job (and us) that we cannot control anything or create anything when it comes to "nature". God is in control of even the snow and the rain and the temperature. Knowing this, can we rest in Him when things are out of our control? What comfort do we find in this? What re-evaluation do we need to undertake in our desire to control things? What other aspects of creation cause you to declare praise and thanks to the "faithful Creator"?

5. During storms, a lot (I mean a whole lot) of people rush to the store and buy up all the milk and bread. "How much milk and bread can we eat in 24-48 hours (rhetorical question)?" This is a great time to think about the less "fortunate" and the people who work around the clock in freezing conditions. Take time to pray for those without a roof over their heads and without food and adequate clothing. Pray for those utility workers, police, fire fighters and other first responders. Take time as a group and pause to give God thanks for all you have and to lift up those who are without. Consider how blessed we are and talk about ways we can be a blessing to others who have little while we have so much.

6. God deserves our praise. Within Psalm 147:1-7, how many different reasons are listed for praised God? How many more can you think of? What is your favorite reason to praise God?

7. God deserves our trust. In what ways do you find it easy to trust God. In what ways do you have difficulty trusting God? We often say trust is earned. Has God earned your trust? How?

8. Nothing is beyond God's power or control. Do you find it easy to rest in God's capable hands? Do you find it hard to rest in God because you don't pray when you are concerned or nervous?

9. Consider Psalm 147:13b. Discuss your thoughts with the group.

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