GOD IS SOVEREIGN

Discipleship Guide #13/14

TODAY'S GOAL

 That your student(s) would understand why they can trust in God's sovereignty and how to practically practice this in their own life.

OPEN IN PRAYER

• Pray together and ask God to prepare your hearts to hear from His Word today.

EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

• Set the foundation for why you are studying the attributes of God. First, read **2 Pet 3:18** together. Then, in your own words, explain the following truth: what we believe changes how we live (feel free to share an example). Therefore, what we believe about God will change the way we think, speak, and act. Finally, share with your student(s) one way you were change by a growing trust/belief in the character of God during a particular moment of your life. Maybe resting in His sovereignty brought you through a deep depression or growing in understanding of His personability deepened your prayer life. This will give them tangible hope to change themselves!

IDENTIFY YOUR STUDENT'S CURRENT UNDERSTANDING

- See where the student(s) is at. Is the word "sovereign" new to them? When we look at God's sovereignty, it is important to understand how His other attributes compliment His sovereignty. Walk through the following questions together.
- Discuss: **What does sovereignty mean?** Share the following truth: *When we speak of God's sovereignty, we are referring to His all-powerful attribute or character trait. This means that absolutely nothing happens outside of God's control and authority.*
- Discuss: **How does God's perfect goodness add to this definition?** Share the following truth: *An evil sovereign king would be one to be feared but a good sovereign king is one to be aligned with. As Christians, we serve a good and wise sovereign King. Therefore, we have nothing to fear (Exodus 34:6).*
- Discuss: **How does God being perfectly trustworthy add to this definition?** Share the following truth: *Throughout Scripture and through history, we see that God never breaks His promises. Because He is trustworthy, we are able to trust in His sovereign control of our lives (Isaiah 25:1).*
- Discuss: **How does God being perfectly just add to this definition?** Share the following truth: *If God is just, He can and will judge between right and wrong and He will create justice in accordance with His perfect standard. We can trust that if God is perfectly sovereign and just, He will ultimately make everything right (Acts 17:31).*

LOOK FOR GOD'S HOLINESS IN SCRIPTURE

- Walk through the following key Scriptures together and discuss the following question after each
 one: What does this Scripture reveal about who God is? Use this time to ask follow up
 questions to your student(s) to further their understanding of who God is as our sovereign King.
- 1 Timothy 3:15-16, Matthew 10:29-31, Colossians 1:16-17.

DISCUSS HOW WE CHANGE IN LIGHT OF GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

- The goal of this time is to help identify areas in your student's life where they struggle to believe/trust in God's sovereign nature. If you know of a particular area in your student's life that may contribute to this struggle, consider gently bringing that up with them and asking how what you learned today may help them in that area of their life. DON'T FORGET to share your answers to the following with the student as well. The student(s) isn't the only one who struggles to trust God's sovereignty in their life fully;).
- Discuss: Why do you think it is so hard for you and I to trust in God's sovereignty?
- Discuss: How would your life change if you were to trust in God's complete sovereignty?
- Discuss: Where in your life do you find it difficult to trust in God's sovereignty? Helping identify a specific area of your student(s) life here will help contribute to the next portion of your time together.

PRACTICALLY APPLY TODAYS TRUTH TO AN AREA OF YOUR STUDENT'S LIFE

- Discuss: **How does God being perfectly just add to this definition?** Share the following truth: *If God is just, He can and will judge between right and wrong and He will create justice in accordance with His perfect standard. We can trust that if God is perfectly sovereign and just, He will ultimately make everything right (Acts 17:31).*
- First, have your student(s) write down an example of how they struggle to believe in God's good sovereignty.
 - o For example "I am really anxious about going to a new school...I am afraid people won't like me".
- Then, have them write down what lie they are believing about God in that moment?
 - Example: I believe that I am in control of my friendships. I believe that God doesn't care enough about me to listen to my prayers.
- Finally, have them write down a truth about who God is that counteracts the lie they can hold on to.
 - Example: People come and go but the Lord will "never leave us or forsake us. So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:5-6).

CONSIDER OPTIONAL HOMEWORK:

https://1drv.ms/w/s!An5ireFvcG7q-EE1iByvlFk0UyXB

CLOSE IN PRAYER

• Pray in light of what you learned today with your student(s).

