

# Life Group / Personal Study Guide

Spiritual growth, like hiking, is a slow, steady process. We must resist the urge to rush maturity and instead walk step by step with God, trusting His timing. Andrew spoke about how spiritual growth is a journey, not a sprint—what stood out to you from Sundays message?

Have you ever gone on a long hike or something similar? What did it teach you about endurance and patience..?

#### 1. Wait for the Lord

Read Isaiah 40:31 & Psalm 27:14

- "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength..." (Isaiah 40:31)
  - 1. What does it **mean** to "wait on the Lord"?
  - 2. Why is waiting difficult in our fast-paced world?
  - 3. Andrew spoke about how waiting on God isn't passive, but active trust—how can we practice that in our daily lives?

### 1. Cry Out to God

### **Read James 5:7**

- "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop..."
  - 1. Why does James compare patience to farming?
  - 2. What are some ways we can "cry out" to God when we feel impatient?
  - 3. How does prayer help us remain patient in seasons of slow growth?

### 3. Ask God to Open Our Eyes

- Psalm 119:32 "I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free."
  - 1. How does obedience to God help us see things more clearly?
  - 2. Have you experienced a time when God helped you see a situation differently after praying?
  - 3. What are some practical ways we can ask God to "open our eyes" daily?

## 4. Resist the Temptation to Shortcut Growth

Read Matthew 4:1-11 (Jesus' Temptation)

- 1. How did Satan tempt Jesus to "fast-track" God's plan?
- 2. What are some ways we're tempted to take shortcuts in our spiritual growth today?
- 3. Andrew spoke about how Jesus chose obedience over quick results—how can we follow that example?

## 5. Trust God's Timing

Read Matthew 19:16-22 (The Rich Young Ruler)

- 1. Why did the rich young man walk away sad?
- 2. How does impatience keep us, from fully following Jesus?
- 3. What is one area where you need to trust **God's timing** in your life right now?

# 6. Focus on Daily, Small Steps of Obedience

- Matthew 11:29 "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."
  - 4. Why do we get overwhelmed and stressed when we don't wait on God?
  - 5. What small, daily steps of obedience can help us walk closely with God?
  - 6. Andrew spoke about how small, daily steps of faithfulness, builds long-term growth—how can we apply that this week?

## **Closing Reflection & Prayer:**

- What is one area where you may need to slow down and trust God more?
- Pray as a group, asking God to help each person embrace His pace and grow at His speed.