



Icebreaker: Does trouble in the world often multiply your own troubles? Or are your troubles more insulated or unaffected by the troubles in the world?

I. Face Reality

Jesus is straightforward about the reality of trouble in this world, but our faith equips us to face these challenges.

John 16:33b - "In this world you will have trouble"

1. How does acknowledging the reality of troubles in life change our approach to difficulties?
2. Can you share a time when facing a challenge head-on strengthened your faith?
3. How can we support each other in the church community when facing life's troubles?

II. Remember Christ's Victory

Christ's victory over the world is our source of courage and hope, both for the future and in our present reality.

John 16:33c - "But take heart! I have overcome the world."

4. How does Christ's victory impact our daily lives, especially during difficult times?
5. Can you share an experience where you felt God's victory in a challenging situation?
6. What are some practical ways we can remind ourselves of Christ's victory when we feel discouraged?

III. Seek God's Peace

God's peace is not the absence of trouble, but His presence in the midst of it. We can access this peace through prayer and thanksgiving.

John 16:33a - "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace."

7. How would you describe the difference between worldly peace and God's peace?
8. What practices help you experience God's peace in difficult times?

IV. Focus on God's Presence

Even in our loneliest moments, we are never truly alone because God is always with us.

John 16:32b - "Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me."

9. How can we become more aware of God's presence in our daily lives?
10. Can you share a time when you felt God's presence strongly during a difficult season?

V. Keep an Eternal Perspective

Our current challenges are part of a much bigger, eternal story. Viewing our struggles through this lens can provide hope and purpose.

Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

11. How does maintaining an eternal perspective change the way we view our current troubles?
12. What are some ways we can cultivate an eternal perspective in our daily lives?
13. How can keeping an eternal perspective impact our decisions and priorities?

Thank God that whatever happens in our county, the LORD always has the victory!