

ONE

STORY

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

WEEK 30 Purpose

BEFORE THE SESSION:

- Pray for each of your group members by name
- Look over the questions on the right and choose the ones that are most appropriate for your small group. If you're really feeling motivated, you might even think of a few on your own.
- Think through how you might prompt your group a little if they have difficulty getting started in discussion.

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Our sovereign God created us for one purpose- to glorify Him!

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK:

Read about the prophet Jeremiah.

AS YOU READ...

...Think about who in your life you can share the things you're reading with.

CONNECT

(10 min.)

Choose one or both of the following questions to begin your time together as a group.

1. **What is the most important thing you learned from your mother?**
2. **If you are a mother, what is the one thing you hope you can teach or pass on to your children?**

EXPLORE

(40 min.)

Say something like, "Leader: say something like "Today we are going to look at why God created everyone."

3. **If you were in worship this week, what statement or experience stood out to you? What stood out during last week's reading?**

(Leader: Take some time to discuss any questions that may have arisen as your members read through this week's assigned reading.)

4. **Read Isaiah 43:1-2. What "waters" or "fires" seem to be fearfully close to you? What does it mean to you that God says he will be with his people through these things? How have you experienced that in the past? How come he does not let us avoid them?**
5. **Read Isaiah 43:3-4. Why do think it says he will give men in exchange for Israel? (Hint: He pursues us at all costs.) Do you think you are currently pursuing Him at all costs? Why or why not?**
6. **Read Isaiah 43:5-7 when has God worked good in your life despite your own "blindness" and "deafness"? How would you explain what God has done for you to someone who does not yet follow Christ?**
7. **From what you learned in this weekend's message or our session tonight, what do you think should be our motivation in witnessing to others about God's grace in our lives (See Romans 12:1).**

TRANSFORM

(10 min.)

Wrap up your time by recalling a few things from your meeting that stood out to you. Then, ask the following question and pray together.

8. **How did what we talked about today change the way you view God's purpose for you? Who do you know that you need to share God with this week?**

This Week's Study Notes:

Scripture Notes

Isaiah 43:1

To call by name here denotes intimacy of friendship; it means that God had designated them to be his people. His call was not in general or to the nations at large but was addressed to Israel in particular

Isaiah 43:2

Fire and water are often used in scripture to denote calamity; the latter because it overwhelms, the former because it consumes (See Psalms 69:1 and Psalms 73:10).

Isaiah 43:4

God would stop at nothing to ensure the restoration of his people to him. This should give us confidence that God is in complete control, we are dear to him and that we should put the utmost confidence in him

Isaiah 43:5-6

Isaiah is foretelling the gathering of God's people both Jew and Gentile from all the corners of the earth when Jesus returns to meet his "bride" the church.

Isaiah 43:7

To be called by anyone's name is synonymous with being as a son, since the son bears the name of the father.

Leader Tips

AS YOU READ THIS WEEK...

- Think about and pray for each member of your small group.
- Think through the following questions:
 1. Whom does God bring to mind as I read these verses? Why?
 2. What needs to change in my own life as a result of what I'm reading?
 3. Whom do I need to tell about these verses?

FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY WE RECOMMEND...

- Bible Commentary: Bible.org
- Bible Commentary: DesiringGod.org
- Pronouncing Biblical Words: Netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm

* Scripture Notes adapted from and used by permission of Serendipity House Publishing, 1 LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee

