

I DOUBT IT – LIFE Group Study Guide

Intro Week – interview with Noel G

Pastor Miles McPherson – April 3, 2016



Every spiritual journey includes some doubts... maybe you've wrestled with your own doubts but have kept them hidden. During this series, we want to bring all our doubts into the light and talk about them. As an underlying premise to this series, we believe that God can handle all of your doubts, and God's Word the Bible has answers for many of our doubts.

Opening Discussion:

In this week's interview and message, Pastor Miles said, *"today is today, but God has a bigger story for you."*

1. What do you think Pastor Miles meant by that statement? How does it make you feel?
2. If you could re-write your story, what would you change?

Digging Deeper:

A popular verse that people quote and that gets printed on t-shirts and banners comes from Jeremiah 29:11, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

A key to properly reading and understanding the Bible is to look at the broader context that a verse comes from. With that in mind, let's dig into the book of Jeremiah today and see what God was actually declaring!

→ Read Jeremiah 28

3. At first glance, Hananiah's prophesy sounds pretty good – but obviously it wasn't from God. Why were the people of Judah taken into exile in Babylon, and how long were they supposed to be there? (see Jer 25:1-11)

→ Read Jeremiah 29:1

4. Who did Jeremiah send the letter to?

→ Read Jeremiah 29:4-10

5. What did God tell the people to do while in exile? Does that strike you as strange? Why or why not?

6. Why did he tell them those things?
7. Imagine you are one of the Jews in exile; what is your response to vs. 4-10? What are you feeling? What are you thinking?

→ **Read Jeremiah 29:11-14**

8. What were the prerequisites to the fulfillment of God's promise in verse 11?
9. How would the people respond to God's fulfilled promise?
10. **Application:** Are you seeking God with all your heart at this stage of your story? If not, what steps will you take this week to draw closer to God? Consider making verses 12-13 a prayer to lift up to God each day this week!

For further study:

Read Deuteronomy 4:25-31; 28:1-68; 30:11-20

To send your tough questions to Pastor Miles, text "Questions" to 52525

Invite your friends to join you this Sunday at one of the Rock campuses for "I DOUBT IT"!

Take it Home:

Reflect on your life story this week:

- Think about the people who have influenced your life, either positively or negatively (e.g. coach in high school challenged me to excel & believed in me).
- Think about the key events that have shaped your life, again, both positive or negative (e.g. when you trusted in Christ, family trip to Yosemite age 12, parents divorce, marriage, etc.).
- What are the key milestones of your life, and how has God been involved with those milestones?

On the next page, write the highs and lows of your life on the timeline. The more positive an event, the higher above the line; the more negative or difficult, the lower below the line.

- Where do you see God working through all the different experiences, people, and events of your life?
- Spend some time praising God for his presence in your life and his providence in how he leads your life.

Timeline of God's Work in my Life

Name: _____

Date: _____

Positive

Negative / Difficult

Birth

Teens

20's

30's

40's

50's

60+



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