Group Discussion Guide

PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION

Below the Surface Sermon Series Glory in the Storm by Pastor Tony Choose the best question(s) for your group

May 6, 2018 Questions: Contact Pastor Ric, joline@lefc.net

Below are some discussion questions relating to a recent sermon. These are provided so that your Life Group can discuss what was shared. Previous Weeks' Discussion Guides and Sermon Notes are available through the Sermons under the Resources menu. Click on the sermon series and then the sermon you are interested in. You will see a paper icon under the sermon title. Click the icon to open the sermon notes. To listen to the sermon, click on the speaker icon.

Text: 2 Corinthians 11:24-29; 12:9b-10; 1 Peter 4:12-19

- 1. How do you *rely on God's power* when the challenges of life become overwhelming and personal... and when God doesn't seem to be listening? What does this concept mean to you and how is it developing in your life? How is God's Grace revealed in your life?
- 2. Our culture says that a life of ease is to be desired. We are surrounded by things/stuff to make our lives easy/problem free. How do we properly prepare ourselves for the coming challenges/storms of life which God's Word says are used to grow us?
- 3. What does "participating with Jesus sufferings daily" mean to us? How does my daily routine reflect a vital and growing/personal relationship with Him? Share with your group your personal spiritual disciplines which keep you close to Jesus.
- 4. Perspective can be easily lost in the storm. We somehow just want to survive. Seeking God's eternal perspective (future glory) begins with understanding that it is the most important thing. How can this change in perspective help you to move forward? How can it help you change your perspective when you see those in your *Oikos* also going through

suffering and storms of life, or when your *Oikos* observes you in the storm?

- 5. The storm reflects God's love for you? I should be proud to be hurting and scared of what is happening to me? How are we to make sense of this and incorporate it into our thinking? Discuss how difficult it can be to celebrate Jesus in the storm.
- 6. Winning athletes never quit. The natural response can be to stop and give up, especially when we feel alone (self-pity/hopeless). This is where the team (your church family) mindset helps. Where do we find the strength to keep going when we feel like giving up? Life Groups (similar to an athletic team/coach) can be a key component in helping. Explain how your Life Group comes along side those who are hurting. How can we improve on this?