

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

PLAYBOOK FOR LIFE: New Testament

February 17 & 20, 2022



### Introduction:

1. Think about a favorite relative—your dad or mom, your eccentric Uncle Bob... do you have a favorite story that shows their character, uniqueness, humor or why you value or (valued) them so much? Do you have a favorite Jesus story, i.e., something that he said or did that makes you appreciate him?
2. Have you ever prayed fervently and earnestly for something and felt like God didn't answer?

### Discussion

3. Read Matthew 7:9-11, Luke 11:11-13, John 15:7  
Do these verses suggest that literally anything (health, happiness, wealth, a fabulous life) are ours if we only know how to ask God for it?  
  
What do these verses teach us about asking God for something? Read John 15:8, 16.  
What does God want to give us?
4. Why is it important to read the two parallel accounts in Matthew and Luke or to read a few scriptures following John 15:7 before trying to figure out the meaning of the scripture?
5. Before the Internet and eMail, did you have someone with whom you personally communicated regularly via letters? Or in spite of email, do you have someone with whom you still personally communicate via letters? What was (is) your favorite thing about getting a letter from someone?

6. What's different about the letters in the New Testament from the letters we might have received from parents, spouses, pen pals or friends (back in the day when people wrote letters)?

7. Consider how Paul's letters read like a sermon sometimes (take a quick look at 1 Corinthians 6–13) and yet sound so personal and specific (1 Corinthians 16:15-17) in other parts of the letter.

What can we learn from the portions of letters that sound like sermons? Can we learn something from the personal greetings and farewells even if we don't personally know the characters and their particular situation?

8. When we come across a scripture or instruction in a New Testament letter that is hard to understand or that seems to suggest the opposite of what some other scripture says, (read Romans 3:28 and James 2:24), how can we understand the difficult passages or reconcile two passages that seem at odds?
9. Outside of a few very select verses (read Revelation 3:20 and 21:3-4), is Revelation a book that you read often? Why or why not?
10. Was there anything in this week's sermon that gave you better insight into the book of Revelation?

Are you inspired to try reading Revelation again?

**Takeaway:** Study the Playbook, be encouraged, endure and live adventurously.

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