

UPHELD



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

from Sunday, January 17, 2021

Q: Do the majority of your prayers tend to reflect the short-term urgent or the long-term important?

Q: What are some things we can pray for each other that are more of the long-term important ones?

Read **John 17:9-16**. What is Jesus' main concern in vs. 11 & 15? If Jesus were praying for each of you in your meeting, what may He have in mind for you personally – "keep you" in what *particular* way?

Two Main Ways God "Keeps Us" in John 17:11 & 15

1. Keeping us in vital relationship with the Father

* Describe aspects of a "vital", healthy relationship with God...

Q: How does your relationship with God reflect these descriptions?

2. Keeping us during the sneak attacks from the evil one

* Read **Revelation 12:17**; **1 Peter 5:8**; **Ephesians 6:12**

Q: How have you experienced Satan wage war against you/your faith?

Q: Are there ways God is keeping you against Satan's work *apart from your involvement*?

Three Ways We Respond to God's Keeping Us ("our part" in being kept)

Read **Jude 20-21**. In the original language of this Scripture, there is one imperative (command), with 3 supporting present-tense participles (participations in the action of the verb) to fulfill that command.

Q: Can you identify the verb and each participle phrase?

So, Jude is teaching that we "keep ourselves" as we 'ongoingly' participate in the following actions:

1. Build up a strong faith

Q: What do you do (personally) to build a strong faith? any new helpful practices to share?

Q: As you listen to each other, is there something you hear that you haven't done for a while?

* Read 2 Peter 1:5-11. What stands out to you? How do you add these to your faith?

Q: How will these influence you to be kept in the faith?

2. Pray in the Spirit's power

Q: What various aspects of prayer help you, personally, to be "kept"?

Q: How do you rely on and experience the Holy Spirit in your prayer life?

3. Wait in faith for Christ's return

* Describe the experience when you were eagerly awaiting the visit/return of someone you love

Q: Do you long for Jesus' return? How often do you think about this? How are you preparing?

Q: How does this help "keep you" in your relationship with God?

This passage is not exhaustive on how we keep ourselves. Q: What other ways do you keep yourselves?

On Sunday, Gerry encouraged us with this truth: "God's got you!"

Q: When have you really sensed this to be true as you look back in your life?

Q: How does this truth encourage you in particular these days?

PRAYER TIME

(Option to do this in breakout rooms of 3-5)

Q: How would you ask the group to pray that the Father "keep you", or that you "keep yourself", in your relationship with Him? Pray for one another...

* Pray through the top 6 prayer focus themes for 2021 (refer to the prayer cards)