

Weeds In My Garden

Leader Guide | Week 12

Key Things You Heard

- I may have weeds in my garden, but I have a good gardener.
- God cares and He comforts.
- God can redeem the pain.
- God can use the weeds in our garden for His glory.

Pray

Heavenly Father, We are grateful that even though we have weeds in our garden, you are good gardener. You comfort us in difficult times, redeem to pain in our lives, and use the circumstances in our lives for your glory. Lord, let us learn to trust you for you are always faithful to us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Tweetable Moments

"When you find weeds in your garden, it is not a sign that you are not spiritual. It is a sign that you are human and that we live in a fallen world."

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Questions for Conversation

Icebreaker: As you look back over the last 12 weeks, what impacted you the most in this sermon series, and why?

- Read **2 Corinthians 2:1-4**. What does this verse say about God? What does it say about us? Read **2 Corinthians 5:16-19**. How are these two verses connected?
- Read **Philippians 1:12-14**. How did God re-purpose Paul's chains and pain? Has there ever been a time in your life where God has re-purposed your pain, or your chains? Would you share your testimony?
- Read **Philippians 4:11-13**. Paul says that he has, "...learned to be content whatever the circumstances." What lessons in contentment have you learned? What areas of your life do you struggle to be content? What role does being discontent play in your mental and spiritual health?
- Read **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**. "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Does this verse mean we should live weak lives so God's power can be strong? Explain. How is God's power made perfect in weakness? What are ways you trust God's grace and His power in moments of weakness?

Now Go Do It (resources and next steps)

Challenge: There are times in everyone's life when the smooth-sailing ship comes into rough waters, and it looks like there is no hope of a way out. In fact, Jesus Himself warned us that life would not be easy, and we could expect to encounter all kinds of trouble and distress during our lifetimes. Paul also instructs Christians to be patient in affliction. This is often easier said than done, especially when we try to navigate the troubling times on our own.

As followers of Jesus, we have been given a promise that He will never leave us or forsake us. Therefore, no matter how difficult life's circumstances become, we can still have hope because we know we are never alone. We also have hope in the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is our comforter in times of grief, and gives us peace in times of trouble.

This Life Group series will help give you a better understanding of the hope that we have in Jesus, even through the difficult time of life. With the help of Scripture, you will learn how God's love brings you hope and gives you encouragement to share the burdens of others as they go through difficulties. Ultimately, the goal of this series is to help you better understand and realize that wherever Christ is present, there is always hope. <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/328418>