



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week Three

Prov. 3:5-8, Isaiah 31:1-3, 2 Cor. 1:8-11

PRAYER ACTION PLAN

WE REPENT OF self-dependence versus God-dependence.

WE WILL seek God first in prayer and walk in dependence on Him.

PRAY

Invite the Spirit of God into your midst. Pray for the ability to be present in conversation and open to the Spirit's leading.

DISCUSS

Use this section to get the group warmed up a bit. You can use one of these questions, or you could write your own based on this week's message.

What are some of the mundane areas of life where you are actively dependent on someone/something other than yourself?

Talk about a time when you had a plan that looked great "on paper" but fell apart completely in the end. What went awry?

READ PROVERBS 3:5-8

Why are trust and dependence such important elements of the Christian life?

Why might it be difficult for someone to trust God with "all" of themselves? How have you seen this at work in your life?

In light of the Gospel, why is it problematic to trust in our own understanding?

READ ISAIAH 31:1-3

What are some ways that people (perhaps even you) "go down to Egypt for help" in today's world? Why is this problematic in the end?



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READ 2 CORINTHIANS 1:8-11

In v. 9 Paul writes, *“Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.”* (ESV) Perhaps you’ve never been in such a dire situation as this, but how do you relate to what Paul is saying?

What do these verses illustrate about the role of doing life together (community) when it comes to becoming more dependent upon God?

APPLY

What are some ways that you are relying on yourself rather than trusting in the Lord?

Take a moment and imagine your life as if you were relying totally upon God, trusting him completely. Describe it for us. What are you feeling? What might it be like?

What is holding you back from leaning into that sort of God-dependent living? How can we help one another release our grip and trust more fully in God?

How might our life together at Trinity look differently if each of us sought to live God-dependent lives?

PRAY

Spend time praying for one another. Invite the Lord to reveal areas of self-dependence and to grant the faith to trust more fully in Him this week.

Pray also for Trinity, that in all we do we will be a people marked by our dependence upon the God that raises the dead to life.