

Experiencing God

Small Group Discussion Guide

Unit 2

- What was a key take-away for you through the study this week?
- Tell us about a meaningful statement or scripture you read this week.

Blackaby states at the bottom of page 33: *"To live a God-centered life, you must focus your life on God's purposes, not on your own plans."*

- Why do we often exchange Gods purposes for our plans?
- What's the byproduct of exchanging our plans for Gods purposes?
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On Page 35, we encounter the following question:

"Why do we not realize that it is always best to do things God's way?"

- What prevents us from realizing/ believing this?

On Page 36, the author recounts the Israelites and Moses; he observes:

"God brought Israel out of Egypt with many miraculous signs and wonders.

Wouldn't you think the Hebrews would trust God to do anything after that?

When they arrived in the promised land, however, they could not trust Him to deliver it to them."

- What challenges you as you consider that statement?
- How have you been like these Israelites?
- List some of the reasons you have to trust God.

On Day 3 we saw how God takes the initiative in showing us His will. Take a moment and Review 1b on page 39.

Blackaby says *"Open and closed doors don't always indicate God's guidance."*

- Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- Why do we seek methods or formulas for godliness instead of a relationship with God?

Unit 2

Read Psalm 81:10 and then read the last paragraph on page 39.

- **Describe some of the thoughts or feelings that this passage and story creates within your mind and heart.**

In Day 4, we saw multiple ways that God has spoken.

Take a moment and review the scriptures on page 42.

We believe God speaks, but how? Blackaby says: “God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.”

- **Take a moment and recall personal experiences of how God has spoken using each of the four ways underlined above.**

In Day 5, we begin to see how once God speaks we begin to prepare for his Word to come true. Often times, God speaks about something that will take place but time passes in order for our character to grow. Blackaby states: “Nothing is more pathetic than having a small character when you have a big assignment. Many of us don’t want to give attention to the development of our characters; we just want God to give us a big assignment.”

- **Recall how God developed the character of different people in the Bible.**
- **Share an example of how God used the small events that shaped your character to prepare you for the next things throughout your life.**

Read the block labeled (3) on page 47.

- **Of these 4 options, which one of the first 3 do you identify with the most.**
- **Recall a time that you chose to respond in obedience to Gods purposes rather than your plans. How did it make you feel to know that God accomplished his desires through you?**