



# Life's a Beach: Changing Our Perspectives

Week of Aug 7th, 2022

## Connect Group Discussion Guide

Sometimes it can be easy to focus on all the negative going on in our lives. Our perspective can be, “Life’s a Bleep!” But with God we can change our perspective to know and believe that Life’s a Beach!

- Circle Time: Share about a major issue in your life that have changed your mind on.
  - What caused you to change your mind? How has this change affected your life in the meantime?
- In his sermon Pastor Dave talked about some of the incredible miracles that God performed in the liberation of the Israelites from Egypt. What were some of the really big ways God came through for them?
  - What are some really big ways that God has come through in your life?
- Read Exodus 14:8-16
  - What do you think it means that God hardened Pharaoh’s heart? Did God cause the death of the Egyptians or did Pharaoh? In what situations have you felt a hardening in your heart towards God?
  - Why do you think the Israelites couldn’t believe in God’s deliverance even after all they had seen?
  - Moses tells his people as an answer to their fears to make a stand, he may not have been calling them to fight in any violent ways, but he did tell them, “We only need to be still”. God quickly tells Moses to keep his people moving! With this principle in mind... In today’s day, when are some times that Christians should be still and when are some times that Christians should keep moving?
- Even though we listed some really big ways that God has come through in our lives earlier we can often view our present circumstances with the wrong perspective.
  - What causes us to doubt in God’s providence in our lives? Is it that you believe God can’t or won’t deliver for you? Why or why not?
  - Share about a time that God didn’t answer your prayer in the way you wanted Him to, but you can now see the good work He was doing in that situation.
- Read Psalm 23
  - What are the characteristics of the shepherd in this Psalm that ultimately provide for the author? Does the shepherd simply give the author everything he wants? What are some other ways besides giving does the shepherd provide? How have you seen God at work in this way in your life?
  - God has historically used people to carry out His miracles in scripture. In our story this past weekend he used Moses. It was God’s power that split the red sea, but it was through the raised arms of Moses. Jesus does this as well. It was His power that fed the 5,000 but it was his disciples who passed the food out. What if Moses said no? What if the disciples said no?
    - How is God call you personally to live in a way that helps others shift their perspective from Bleep to Beach?