

Missing Peace
Disappointed By God
December 24, 2023

Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

Think back over the past year. What did you think 2023 was going to be like? What disappointments did 2023 hold for you? What unexpected blessings did you experience?

1. Read Luke 2:8-14 and Matthew 1:18-21.

What changes in plans did Mary and Joseph have to deal with? How did they respond to the unexpected events God brought into their lives?

Have you ever been disappointed with God? How did you work through that?

What is your first response when plans don't go the way you hope?

2. Read Proverbs 19:21.

You don't have to understand God's plan to trust that He has a purpose. Is that kind of trust easy or difficult for you? What step could you take to go deeper in trusting God's plan and purpose for your life?

What plans, hopes, goals or dreams do you have for the coming year? Write them down, then pray over them. Invite God to shape your dreams and desires.

How might you manage the tension between working toward a desired outcome and remaining open to whatever changes or interruptions God might bring your way?

God's plans for us are always better than our own. How have you experienced this truth in your life?