

# GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

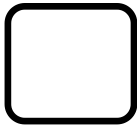
1. Where have you seen God active in your life this week...**creating** the highs and the lows?
2. How has **God spoken into your life** through his Word and through his people to address those highs and lows?
3. **Reread the sermon text, 2 Corinthians 12:1-10.** Share with the group the thoughts and questions that come to your mind. Is the reality of this text *alarming* or *comforting*?
4. **What are the distractions in life that can threaten the “main thing” in our purpose for living?** Use the following to spur on honest conversation:

God’s Purpose for Me

Threats to His Purpose

My children.....	_____
My hobbies.....	_____
My spouse.....	_____
My gifts from God.....	_____
My health.....	_____

5. Read aloud the Old Testament lesson from Sunday, **Isaiah 55:1-11**. What are the beautiful reminders of the Spirit of God as he speaks into the earthly journey of the Christian?
6. Visit the gospel from Sunday, **John 7:1-18**. How “real” was Jesus’ earthly journey? What was the message of his brothers? What was Jesus’ message when finally he spoke at the festival?  
  
What became of Jesus’ brothers, James and Judas? 😊
7. Reread God’s purpose in his Creation using **John 3:16**. **Pray yourselves out** of your discussion keeping “the main thing, the main thing.”



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

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## 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 GOD WORKS IN OUR LIVES TO KEEP THE “MAIN THING” THE “MAIN THING”

The journey of the Christian confuses the world...

### 1. It is **AMAZING** What Can Distract Us

#### A. Paul Saw Heaven...

God P\_\_\_\_\_ us for our journey.

He shows us the T\_\_\_\_\_ heaven!

#### B. Conceit Was a **REAL** Possibility!

Paul was H\_\_\_\_\_

Satan is a “N\_\_\_\_\_” with this temptation

**APPLICATION** To what “end” YOUR knowledge of heaven?

### 2. It Is **AMAZING** What It Takes to Focus Us

#### A. Reminders from God

A “T\_\_\_\_\_ in the flesh’

A “M\_\_\_\_\_” of Satan

#### B. A Word from God

My grace is S\_\_\_\_\_

My power is C\_\_\_\_\_ in weakness

**APPLICATION** “One day closer to home.”

**CONCLUSION** Our “exit” is always a blaze of glory!

### Next Steps

- **What is the greatest “threat” in your life that could pull your eyes off of heaven?** How is God, in his awareness of that threat, actively working in your life to “keep the main thing...the main thing?” **Romans 8:28**
- **Are you a person who always needs to win?** True or False: In Christ, we are always winners? **Romans 8:37-39**
- **Is God’s grace truly sufficient...enough?** Read Job 1:1-2:10. What in Job’s life allowed him to stay focused on the “main thing” in the midst of his suffering?