



## WEEK 1: CAN GOD TRUST ME WITH BLESSING?

### INTRODUCTION & OPENING QUESTION

The world we live in tells us to "play the odds." Whether that is a lottery ticket, or with our investments and finances, or our educational degree choice, career path, or the relationships we pursue & invest in, we are told that beating the odds is the only way to experience success. But what if this assumption is completely wrong? What if life isn't about playing the odds at all? In this series, we are looking at what a blessed life actually looks like. In week one, we are going to learn that true blessing is directly tied to being obedient—not taking our chances with the odds. More specifically, we want to focus our time on talking about obedience to God. Through this study, we are going to see that God WANTS to bless us (as His children). And knowing that, we are going to ask the important question: "Can God trust me with blessing?"

***Share a time where you received unmerited favor and/or access from someone.***

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

***Instructions for the group meeting: Read each question out-loud giving ample time for discussion before reading through Bible references for additional discussion and context. Close out the evening in prayer.***

- 1) **How is dealing with odds different from dealing with promises?** 2 Corinthians 1:20
- 2) **How does the world define "blessed?" How is that different from God's favor?** 1 Tim 6:17, Prov 10:22
- 3) **What is one area of your life that you would like to experience God's blessing in? And why?**
- 4) **Do you feel you are or have been in a season of testing? If so, which test did you most relate to?**
  - a) Can I grind it out?
  - b) Can I resist temptation?
  - c) Can I deal with injustice & not be bitter?
  - d) Can I wait for God's perfect timing?
- 5) **"Blessed People are Blessed to Bless People." Share someone that you can bless this week.**
- 6) **Was there anything else from the message that stood out to you?**

**Close in Prayer**

### TAKEAWAYS FOR THE WEEK

#### Reflection Questions

- 1) What is one step of obedience you can take to pursue God in the area you want to see blessing?
- 2) Do you feel that God can trust you with blessing? Talk to God this week about areas you need to grow, confess sin, or trust God in.

#### Action Steps

- 1) Develop & execute a plan to intentionally bless the person you named tonight.
- 2) Read through the life of Joseph (Genesis chapters 37-50) to further explore how God tested Joseph's character in order to bless him so he could bless others.