



**BEAR  
VALLEY  
CHURCH**

## **Message Notes Discussion Guide**

### **MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE THE GREATEST LOVE STORY OF ALL**

#### **KEYS FOR NAVIGATING YOUR PART IN GOD'S STORY**

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*<sup>11</sup>He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.*

**– Ecclesiastes 3:11**

\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

*<sup>12</sup>Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.*

**– James 1:12**

\_\_\_\_\_ when you encounter \_\_\_\_\_ along the way

*<sup>8</sup>Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*

*<sup>10</sup>And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.*

*<sup>11</sup>To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

**– 1 Peter 5:8-11**

**Be \_\_\_\_\_ against the \_\_\_\_\_**

**Be \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ of your story**

*<sup>18</sup>I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

**– Romans 8:18**

*<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup>‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”*

**– Revelation 21:3-4**

**Maintain an \_\_\_\_\_**

*<sup>24</sup>Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, <sup>25</sup>or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.*

**– Proverbs 22:24-25**

### **DIGGING DEEPER:**

1. What are your thoughts about happily ever after stories?
2. Why is it important to see our stories as sub-plots of God’s great story?
3. Which of these keys is most challenging for you to accept? Why?
4. Which of these keys is most easy for you to accept? Why?
5. How can expecting the unexpected help us navigate our part in God’s story?
6. Why is it so easy to give up on God’s story when we experience challenging times?
7. Who is the antagonist in God’s story? What should be our response to this enemy?
8. Why is patience with God so important for our spiritual growth?
9. How can having an eternal perspective help us navigate the circumstances and struggles of our lives?
10. Which of these keys do you need to focus on this week? What is your plan for doing so?