

COUNTERFEIT COUNTERFEIT

fame, money, stuff, Comfort
perfectionism, approval

GROUP CHAT

Key Scriptures

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **1 John**

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. **Hebrews**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. **2 Corinthians**

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. **James**

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. **Romans**

That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him." **1 Corinthians**

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What does "living your best life" look like to you?
- What specific comfort appeals to you the most? It could be a type of food, a pastime, a place, etc.

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Why do you think we have a tendency to chase comfort?
- What are some ways in which chasing counterfeit comfort eliminates our need for faith? Have you ever seen that play out in your life? If so, how?
- Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5. How does God's comfort differ from counterfeit comfort?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What steps can you take to embrace authentic comfort?
- How can you share God's comfort with someone in need of encouragement this week?

Start praying. Be bold.

Father, thank You for having our best life in store for us that's better than anything we could dream up on our own. Help us to choose Your comfort over the passing comforts of this world and to trust You no matter the struggles we face. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Think of someone you know who's in need of comfort and reach out to them this week.