

# “Troubled But Trusting” Group Study

Season 3: Light in the Darkness, **Week 10**

Passage: John 12:27-50

Pastor Ryan Paulson

## ICEBREAKER:

~ If you were given an opportunity to know how long you would live, would you want to know or choose to remain ignorant? Why or why not?

*As a way to get into the study, go back over the Sermon Outline from Sunday:*

Troubled But Trusting

John 12:27-50

Where you turn when **you're troubled** reveals what **you trust**.

*When you're troubled, remember:*

1. Jesus' **power** is greater than **evil**.
2. Jesus' **sacrifice** overcomes **sin**.
3. Jesus' **revelation** demands **response**.
  - Combat **hardness of heart**
  - Reject **narratives of fear**
  - Choose **God's glory over people's praise**

**Times of trouble** increase our desire for **eternal life**.

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## Learning His Way

(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus that is found in the text.)

1. Read John 12:27-50

2. Jesus describes His soul as troubled and even states “Father, save me from this hour?” (v. 27) What do you make of these statements?
3. Jesus is amongst a crowd of people in this passage. Who are they and do they accept or reject Him? Use Scripture to support your answer(s).
4. Read John 12: 35- 36. Why do you think Jesus hid Himself from them?



### **Forming His Heart**

(This is the part of the study where we work on our own hearts. “How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?”)

5. What (or who) hardens the human heart? Examine your own heart, is there something that you have been hardened to that the Lord has brought to your attention through this study?
6. What other authorities in this life are we tempted to bow down to? In other words, what do you turn to in times of trouble?
7. Take a moment of quiet introspection. Is there something that the Lord would want you to take a stand on that you have been afraid to side with God on? If comfortable, share this with the group.



### **Joining His Mission**

(This is the part of the study that we ask, “What would God want us to do because of this passage?”)

8. Take a few minutes as a group and make a list of the things that are glaringly “trouble” during this present moment of time. Pray for these things together as a group.
9. Part of joining God’s mission is rejecting fear and accepting His authority in your life. With that authority comes the ability to bear light and reflect His glory. Where is it that God is calling you to be a light bearer in this world?

## **General Church Announcements:**

### **Thanksgiving Gift Card Drive**

*Thanksgiving is a great time to celebrate all that God has done for us. However, many families in our church family need help to make this season special. We're collecting donations toward gift cards so the families can purchase food they need. You can donate from October 29 to November 19, or join our team to deliver cards between November 12-18. To donate or sign up to deliver, click [HERE](#).*

<https://efcc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/583/responses/new>

### **Christmas Carol Sing**

*Sunday, December 3, 2pm, EFCC Chapel*

*Christmas is a time to come together with family and friends and celebrate the gift we have in Jesus. Let's come together with our church family to sing along with piano and strings as we ring in the Christmas season with your favorite carols. This event is open for kids from "1 to 92" and grown-ups of all ages.*

<https://www.efcc.org/event/carol-sing/>

### **Christmas Concerts!**

*Friday, December 8, 7pm; Saturday, December 9, 2 & 5pm\*; and*

*Sunday, December 10, 2 & 5pm (all concerts will be in the Worship Center)*

*The Emmanuel Faith Choir & Orchestra will present, Abide With Us, featuring Christmas music by Michael W. Smith, Amy Grant, John Rutter, and George Frideric Handel, as we rejoice in God's abiding presence from Genesis to Revelation. Visit the tents in the Courtyard this Sunday for more concert details, or click a link below. A children's program will be available at the Saturday, December 9 concert at 5pm.*

<https://www.efcc.org/concert/>