

Small Group Questions: At The Movies/Shawshank Redemption

Pastor Josh Walters

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Read

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, Romans 5:3-5, 2 Corinthians 4:18

Reflect

In the movie *Shawshank Redemption*, Andy is serving a prison sentence for a crime he didn't commit. Regardless of his circumstances, he held onto hope that there was something more for his life, and he inspired other inmates to do the same. None of us is immune to hard times and testing, but you'll be surprised at your resilience as you endure and rise above your circumstances.

Pastor Josh Walters discusses how being hopeful strengthens our character.

Hope

1. What can happen when we lose hope?
2. What is holding you back from putting your hope in God?
3. What character qualities surfaced in you when you remained hopeful through trials?
4. Who has inspired you to keep hoping and believing for something better?

Perseverance

1. Describe a situation in which you immediately started looking for a way out? If you stayed, what kept you in that place?
2. Sometimes, even as much as we don't want to be where we are, we are afraid to be anywhere else, and the last thing we want is more disappointment. What is holding you back from moving toward freedom?
3. Discuss a time where you let go of fear and moved toward freedom? Did any of your fears actually happen?
4. What areas of your life have you become institutionalized, where complacency keeps you where you are?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?