

Study Guide:
Lock Your Exits: Persevering Through Life's Challenges

Lee Grady

Introduction:

- Discuss the importance of perseverance in difficult seasons.
 - Explain the concept of “locking your exits” and committing to God's calling.
 - Share a personal story of someone struggling with challenges but choosing to remain steadfast.
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I. Giving Jesus Praise

- Recognizing God's presence in our lives.
- The importance of gratitude and community support.

Discussion Questions:

1. How can praising Jesus shift our focus from challenges to gratitude?
 2. What are some specific ways you've seen God's work in your life or community?
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II. Dealing with Unexpected Loss

- Personal story of losing a close friend and navigating grief.
- Trusting God's purpose even when things don't make sense.

Scripture Reference: Hebrews 10:35-39

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever faced a loss that made you question God's plan? How did you process it?
 2. How can faith help us endure painful and unexpected losses?
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III. Lock Your Exits

- The temptation to quit during tough seasons.
- Encouragement to persevere despite trials.
- The importance of godly friendships and encouragement.

Scripture Reference: 2 Timothy 1:7

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do people sometimes want to run from their calling?
 2. How can we encourage others to stay strong in their faith?
 3. What role does community play in helping us stay committed to God's calling?
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IV. Running From God

- Biblical examples: Moses, Gideon, Jonah.
- God always finds us and brings us back to His purpose.

Scripture Reference: Jonah 2:9, Judges 6

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you relate to any of the biblical figures who tried to run from God's calling?
 2. Why do you think it's so easy to doubt God's plan for our lives?
 3. What are practical ways to recognize and accept God's direction?
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V. Conclusion: Say Yes to God

- Comparing Jonah's reluctance with Paul's obedience.
- Personal testimony of surrender and trusting God's plan.

Scripture Reference: Isaiah 6:8

Discussion Questions:

1. What is one area in your life where you need to surrender more fully to God?
 2. How does saying "Yes" to God change the course of our lives?
 3. How can we develop a heart posture of obedience and trust?
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Final Encouragement & Prayer:

- Encourage each person to commit to trusting God fully.
 - Pray for strength, perseverance, and a renewed sense of calling.
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Referenced Scripture Verses:

1. **Jonah 2:9** – *“But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the Lord.’”*
2. **Judges 6** – (Story of Gideon being called by God while in hiding)
3. **2 Timothy 1:7** – *“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”*

4. **Psalm 139:7-10** – *“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.”*
 5. **Hebrews 10:35-39** – *“Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward... We are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.”*
 6. **Hebrews 4:2** – *“For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.”*
 7. **2 Timothy 4:10** – *“For Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.”*
 8. **Isaiah 6:8** – *“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’”*
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“Lock your exits. You can't quit. You know that. I know that. So don't even go down that road. Don't fantasize about running away—you have to face the pain.” Lee Grady