

LET THE GAMES >> GAME OVER BEGIN

INTRODUCTION

When it comes to the game of life, how do you respond in painful experiences when you feel like God is the one saying, “Game Over”?

USING THIS GUIDE

1. Print a copy of the guide for each member of your group.
 2. Watch the video as a group and use the guide to follow along and take notes.
 3. Complete the discussion questions when prompted by the video.
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PART I

VIDEO NOTES

*“You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of **eternal life**. We have come to **believe** and to **know** that you are the Holy One of God.”* John 6:67–69

**We tighten our hands and grip our plans.
Peter opens his hands and surrenders his plans.**

God’s Way	My Way
Open our hands Surrender our plans	Tighten my hands Grip my plans

Something about the hardwiring that God gave each of us links the position of our bodies and position of our hearts . . . I learned this technique from Jesus actually . . . [Jesus] taught me to be palms up, just like he was . . . Jesus was palms up, to the end. –Bob Goff, Love Does

God takes **game-over moments** and writes **game-changing** stories.

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS BEGIN
ON THE NEXT PAGE**



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What is a game-over moment you've seen someone face?
2. Anger is a common response to game-over moments. Is anger helpful? When might anger be harmful?
3. In John chapter 6, Jesus introduces his disciples to the language "eat my flesh and drink my blood." This statement was confusing and offensive. When life seems confusing or offensive, do you identify more with Peter's response or with the response of the disciples who left?
 - DISCIPLES:** *On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"* John 6:60
 - PETER:** *Simon Peter answered [Jesus], "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."* John 6:68-69
4. Lauren said that game-over moments have a tendency to crowd out our blessings. Why, in the midst of a challenging situation, do we have a hard time seeing the good?
5. For Peter, greater faith in God was the outcome of his situation. Do you know someone who wrestled with a game-over experience and seemed to emerge with a growing faith instead of ongoing anger?
6. Using the grid on the following page, take ten minutes to identify areas of your life where what you wanted didn't line up with reality. If possible, write out the good that came from those unwanted situations.

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS CONTINUE
ON THE NEXT PAGE**



	What I Wanted	What Actually Happened	What Good Came from It
<i>Relationships (example)</i>	<i>A relationship with my dad</i>	<i>He passed away suddenly four years ago.</i>	<i>Friends rallied around me the day I found out. I've never known love like that before.</i>
Relationships			
Opportunities			
Dreams			
Possessions			
Career			
Other:			

7. Lauren talked about how she chooses daily to surrender to God’s story for her life, while simultaneously living with an unmet desire for her own biological baby. What are some things that prevent you from giving up your story in order to allow God to write you a different one?

- Fear
- Anger
- Stubbornness
- Sadness
- Wounds
- Lack of Faith
- Other: _____

THIS WEEK . . .

In *game-over* moments, we have a choice: grip our plans or open our hands. As a physical reminder this week, open your hands and position them palms up when things don’t seem to be going the way you expected. When we open our hands and surrender our plans to God, we allow him to take *game-over* moments and write *game-changing* stories.

FEAR ► SUBMISSION TO GOD ► ACCEPTANCE OF NEW STORY ► GRATITUDE