

If God Is For You, Who Can Be Against You?

Small Group Discussion Guide

"If God Be For Us" | Bishop Clay Johnson | WHCGA

1. SERMON RECAP

Bishop Clay Johnson preached from Romans 8:31, walking the congregation through Paul's powerful series of rhetorical questions -- each one carrying an emphatic "no" as its answer -- to establish that when God is truly for us, nothing in time or eternity can ultimately stand against us. He challenged the congregation to see that even the things working against them are, in God's hands, actually working for them. Using both Scripture and his own remarkable personal testimony of surviving severe burns, Bishop Johnson called the church to open their mouths, make some noise, and trust in the eternal security that God has secured for every believer.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:31 (NIV)

"What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

3. ICE BREAKER

Think of a time when something that seemed like a setback later turned out to work in your favor -- maybe a cancelled plan, a missed opportunity, or an unexpected detour. Share a quick story with the group!

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Understanding the Text

Bishop Clay walked through five rhetorical questions in Romans 8:31-39, each with an emphatic "no" as the answer. Which of those five questions hits closest to home for you personally right now, and why?

2. God Working *Through* Opposition

Bishop Clay pointed to Noah, Esther, Ruth, Peter, and even Jesus to show how God allowed difficult or painful circumstances to become the very vehicle for His purposes. Which of those biblical examples resonated most with your own life experience? Is there a "flood" in your life right now that might actually be

what God needs to move your "ark"?

3. The Danger of Too Many Opinions

Bishop Clay described the woman with the issue of blood as someone "caught between too many opinions" -- moving from doctor to doctor until she was broke and no better off. In what areas of life do we sometimes seek too many human opinions and end up more confused, instead of pressing closer to Jesus? How do we know when it's time to stop consulting and start pressing through?

4. The Call to Say Something

Bishop Clay made a point that when Jesus asked "Who touched me?" He already knew -- but He needed the woman to speak up so that God could receive glory. Why do you think it is sometimes hard to publicly acknowledge what God has done for us? What holds people back, and what does the group think shifts when we finally open our mouths and give God credit?

5. Personal Testimony as Proof

Bishop Clay shared his extraordinary story of surviving 80% burns, multiple surgeries, and medical predictions that never came to pass -- all as living evidence that if God be for you, who can be against you? How does someone else's testimony strengthen your faith? Does your own story carry more power than you currently give it credit for?

6. Eternal Security in the Everyday

Bishop Clay said, "The God that secured you in eternity has secured you for eternity -- and therefore nothing in time can stop you." How does holding an eternal perspective change the way we face daily struggles, difficult relationships, or disappointing circumstances this week?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one situation in your life that feels like it is working against you -- a relationship, a financial pressure, a health concern, or a workplace struggle. Write it down on a piece of paper. Then, beneath it, write out Romans 8:31 by hand. Spend five minutes each day this week praying specifically over that situation and declaring out loud: "God is for me in this." Come back next week ready to share any shift -- even a small one -- in how you are seeing that situation.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for eyes to see opposition differently -- that group members would genuinely begin to believe, not just

intellectually agree, that God can turn what is working against them into something working for them.

- Pray for boldness to open their mouths -- that each person would find the courage to speak about what God has done, is doing, and will do in their lives, both privately in prayer and publicly in testimony.

- Pray for those carrying long-standing burdens -- Bishop Clay noted that some people have been waiting a long time for breakthrough. Pray specifically for anyone in the group who has grown weary of pressing through, that they would receive renewed strength to keep pushing toward Jesus.

7. MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Leader's Note: Give your group permission to be real this week. Bishop Clay modeled radical transparency -- from his personal testimony to his humor about everyday life. The safest small groups are the ones where people don't have to pretend everything is fine. Create that space, and watch God move.