

MAY 1, 2020

# Vespers Discussion Guide

SAU Campus Ministries

Interactive Guide





# QUESTIONS



## Reflection:

What are you carrying with you today? What emotional baggage are you holding on to? (e.g. insecurities, anxieties, fears, frustrations, disappointments, grief?)



# Pursue God's Word

Claim Ezekiel 36:26-27 as a prayer to begin: “God, give me a new heart, and put a new spirit in me. Take out my stony, stubborn heart and give me a tender, responsive heart. Put your Spirit in me so that I can follow you and all that you instruct me to do.”

## QUESTIONS





# Pursue God's Word

The seeds of comfort take root in the soil of adversity, struggle and pain.

What is currently taking place in your life, or in your heart, right now that you might need to experience God's comfort?

## QUESTIONS



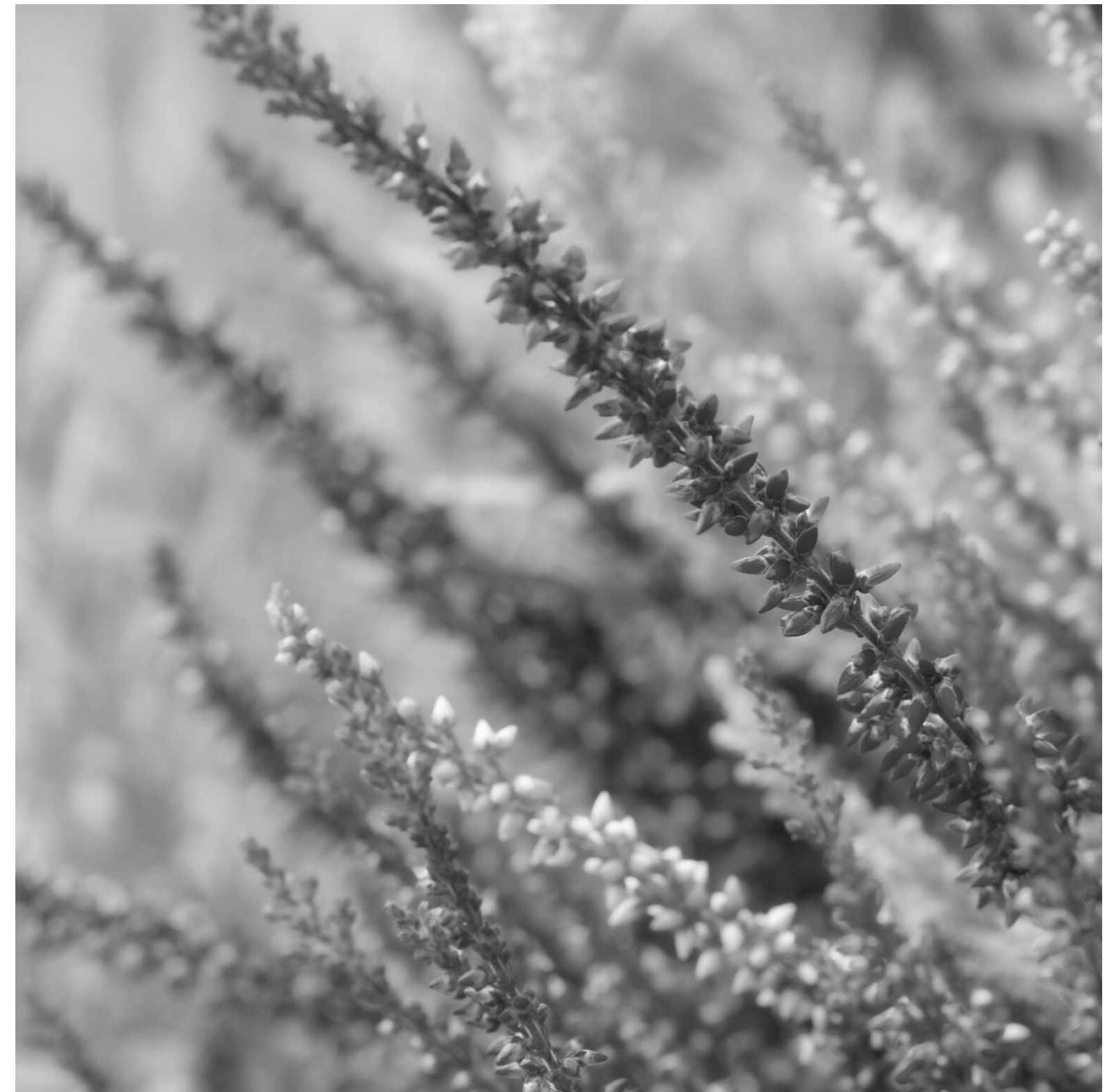
# Pursue God's Word

Read Isaiah 40:3-5. Are you making room to meet with God daily? Is it a struggle for you to meet with Him, or is it more convenient for you to meet with Him now because of your current circumstances?

Even if we don't make time to spend with God, His Word shows us that He still pursues after us because He longs to be in relationship with us.

Verse 5 says, "Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed." Specifically through your quiet, personal time alone with God, how have you experienced Him working on your heart or in your life?

## QUESTIONS





# Pursue God's Word

Read Isaiah 40:6-8. If we aren't regularly consuming the Word of God then we have no solid foundation and are easily blown about and tossed around by our insecurities, anxieties, and fears rather than being firm in the truth of what God says about us, the world we live in, and the time to come.

Are you daily consuming the Word of God? How has it given you a solid foundation during this time of such great uncertainty?

## QUESTIONS



# Pursue God's Word

Read Isaiah 40:9-11.

What imagery most stands out to you from these verses? How does it bring you comfort?

## QUESTIONS





# Pursue God's Word

Read Isaiah 40:12-24.

Isaiah describes God's power to create, His provision to sustain, and His presence to help. God's power and strength never diminish. He is never too tired or too busy to listen to you or to help.

What is your concept of God? How would you describe His character? Is it possible you've underestimated God?

## QUESTIONS





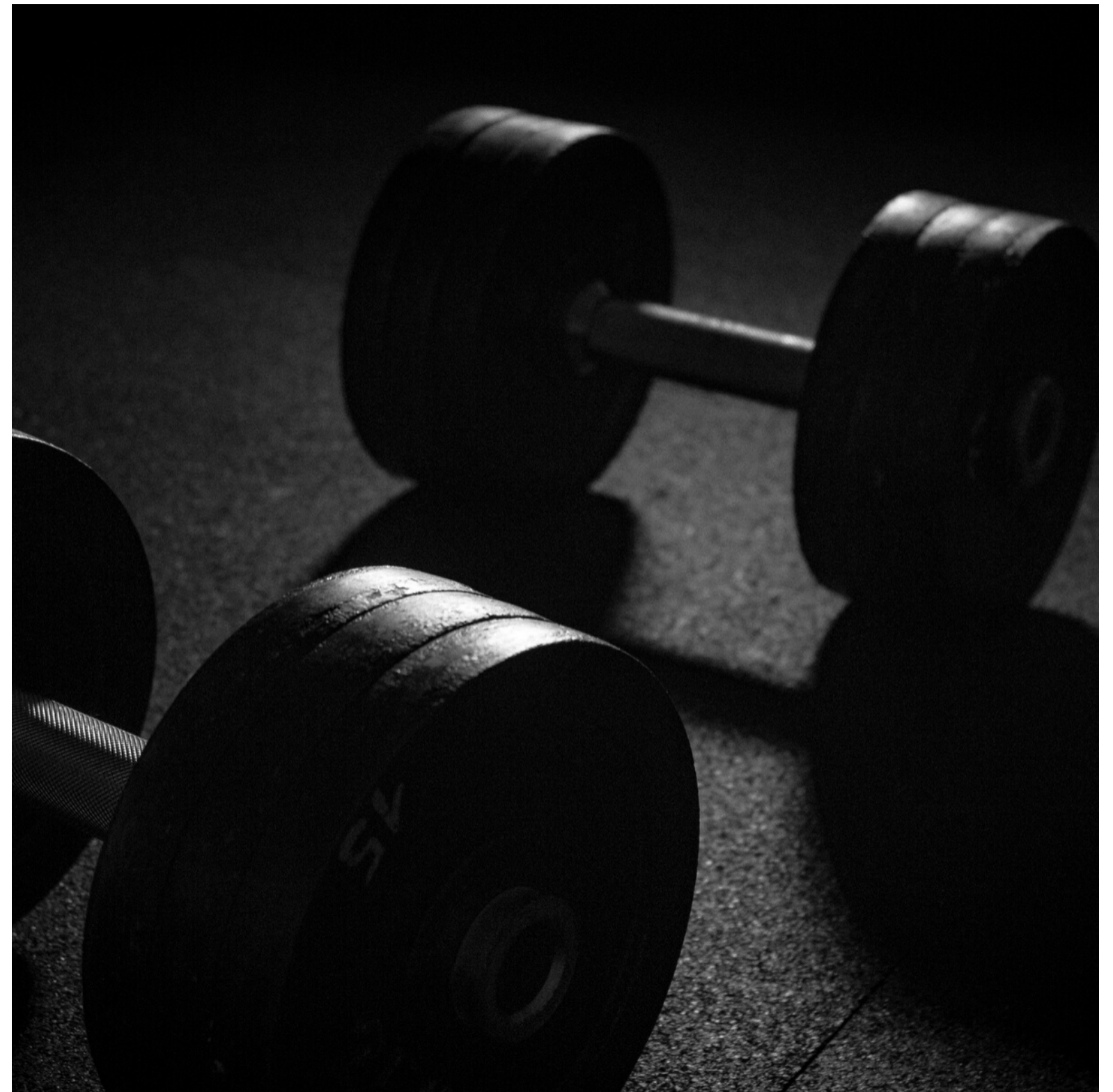
# Pursue God's Word

Read Isaiah 40:25-31.

When you feel like life is crushing you and you cannot go another day, call upon the name of Jesus to renew your strength. Trusting in God is the patient anticipation that God is going to fulfill His promises.

Do you trust Jesus? In what ways is it easy or difficult for you to trust Him?

## QUESTIONS



## QUESTIONS



## Action Plan

Would you like to take a moment right now to whisper in your heart, or shout at the top of your lungs “Jesus, I choose to trust you!” Perhaps you’ll have to practice saying it a few times, and continue to say it daily so that it will become more of a reality in your life - trusting Jesus - for it’s in trusting in Jesus that we find our great Comfort for today and each day to come.



## QUESTIONS



# Action Plan

Before you rush off to something else, spend a few moments in prayer, reflecting on Isaiah 40 and the internal conversation you've had with God. Pray:

Praise - In a few sentences, praise God for who He is, His character and how you've seen this on display in this chapter and in your own life.

Give thanks - For all that God has done, is doing right now, and has yet to do on your behalf, offer gratitude and thanksgiving to your God!

Confess - Perhaps the Holy Spirit has been convicting your heart of something you need to confess before God, it could be as simple as an emotion or as heavy as a sin. You might begin by saying, "God, I confess to you \_\_\_\_\_."

Supplication - Based on all the above, what do you need to ask God for? Call on Him to provide strength, power, grace, forgiveness....and as our Promise Keeper, trust that He's already in the process of giving you exactly what you need.