

# When Jesus Wants Us Desperate, Dec. 11 to 14, 2025

## WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? *Circle Two Opportunity...*

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and 2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

**Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)**

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LEARNING COMMUNITIES SCHEDULE: 3-week break weeks of Dec. 15, 22, 29. Resume week of Jan. 5

INTRO: We are experiencing deep truth and fellowship in Christian community uniquely!

This is META (situated behind or underneath) SLO...

## Cooperating when Jesus wants us desperate

**James 1:2–4 (ESV)** <sup>2</sup>Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup>for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup>And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

**John 16:33 (ESV)** <sup>33</sup>I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

## What is desperation?

Brainstorm: definition and description

Brainstorm: 1. other people in the Bible who were desperate and turned TO God

2. other people in the Bible who were desperate and turned AWAY from God

## As we look at the desperate woman and the desperate dad...

What made each situation desperate?

Why was desperation important – what obstacles did it cause them to overcome?

### ➔ Desperation about loved ones – a Dead Daughter

**Mark 5:21–24 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 840)

### ➔ Desperation about yourself – a Diseased Outcast

**Mark 5:25–33 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 840)

### ➔ Desperation about loved ones – a Dead Daughter, part 2

**Mark 5:35–43 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 840)

1. See the Desperation – *how did they face it, embrace it, lean into rather than push it away*

2. Surrender the Desperation in Undone Humility – *what did that look like?*

3. Stay with Jesus when you don't think you can – *what did they do?*

4. Soar into Jesus' new reality – *what might that kind of living look like?*

## Living SLO in the yoke with Jesus when we are desperate – nitty-gritty living.

“WAITING ON THE LORD” is a key in times of desperation

**Isaiah 40:28–31 (ESV)**

### ➔ What does “waiting on the Lord” mean?

Hebrew word is translated **“to wait, look for, hope, expect”** (Strong's Concordance)

**“the confident expectation of a positive result in which we place a great hope.”** (gotquestions.org)

➔ What does “waiting on the Lord” look like?

† Exercise a patient, confident *trust* in the Lord, even amid trouble, knowing God is good and in charge.

**Lamentations 3:25 (ESV)** The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

**Psalms 25:3** Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

✓ when we don’t know how, why, when, where, what, who, etc

✓ in the dailyness that is so wearying

✓ when it feels impossible to continue

† Fix our eyes on Jesus, laser-like to keep them from fixating on appearances

**Hebrews 12:1–3 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**Hebrews 12:2 (NIV84)** <sup>2a</sup>Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,

† Busy ourselves with day by day assignments to keep us from ruminating on pain

puts mind, heart, body and soul in alignment to receive Isaiah 40:31 promises

**Matthew 11:28–30 (ESV)** <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

† Live in God’s promises

**Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)** but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

✓ what does it look like “to renew their strength?”

✓ what does it look like “to mount up with wings like eagles (soar)?”

✓ what does it look like “to run and not be weary; walk and not faint?”

## Takeaways: