



No Turning Back | Jill Johnson | 05.12.2024

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

How was your week? Share a high, a low, and something weird or interesting that happened.

Share a favorite recipe your mom makes (or made) that you love.

What's the best piece of advice your mom ever gave you?

GROW

Happy Mother's Day! For many, Mother's Day is a time of celebration, a day to express gratitude for the love, sacrifice, and unwavering support of our mothers. It's an opportunity to cherish the memories we've created together and recognize the countless ways mothers shape our lives.

We also acknowledge that Mother's Day can be a bittersweet reminder for those who have lost their mothers or children, or for those who may be navigating the challenges of motherhood without their loved ones by their side.

This week, Pastor Jill Johnson embraced a spirit of empathy, understanding, and unwavering faith in Jesus as she gave her message, *No Turning Back*. When we take our disappointments to the Lord, our faith in the promises of the Lord builds perseverance and hope for things to come. Today, we hold space for all experiences, knowing that God is with each and every one of us in our situation, whether it be a season full of miracles and blessings, bitterness and hurt, or tragedy and unspeakable pain.

Read Psalm 55:22 NLT, Romans 5:3-5 NLT

Share some takeaways from Jill's message this weekend. What spoke to you?

When you experience disappointment, do you take them to the Lord, or do you take them to someone/something else first? Explain.

How have past disappointments and struggles developed your perseverance, character, faith, and hope? What did that journey look like?

What does "Casting your cares on the Lord" typically look like for you? Are there certain feelings, emotions, or topics you find more challenging to surrender/express? Explain.

M O V E

When life throws challenges your way, who or what do you turn to? Do you find yourself focusing on the weight of your situation, things beyond your control, or perhaps trying to cope through vices? Or, are you fixing your eyes on the God of peace?

This mother in 2 Kings had an incredible relationship with the Lord. She prioritized her relationship with Him, and because of that, time and time again, day in and day out, serving the Lord and spending time in his presence. She had seen that disappointment did not stop God from giving her the promise and the unspoken desire that her heart longed for, and she was able to say, "All is well" even in the midst of her most difficult season. She was able to do this, as Jill suggests, for three reasons:

1. She prioritized her personal relationship with God.
2. She chose to live a life that says, "All is well."
3. She decided, "I'm not turning back."

Read Psalm 73:23-28 CSB, Isaiah 26:3-4 NLT

What are some key takeaways from Jill's three points? Do you agree or disagree?

Read the verses above. Which verse, word, or phrase sticks out to you? How do these passages relate to Jill's message?

Take a moment to rank the five most important things in your life, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least. Then, reflect on how much time and energy you commit to each of these. Assign a 1 next to the thing that takes up the most time and energy in your day/week, and a 5 next to the thing that you spend the least amount of time on.

Where does your personal relationship with God rank on your list of priorities? Is it on your top five at all?

The saying, "Show me how you spend your time, and I'll show you what your priorities are," is revealing. Does the way you spend your time and energy align with what you believe your priorities are? Are you dedicating the least amount of time and energy to what you claim is your most important priority? Share what you've discovered.

What are 2-3 things that you would like to do to make your relationship with God more of a priority in your life? How can this group help you stay accountable in those areas over the next week?

P R A Y

This week, pray for new ways to abide in the Lord as He abides in you. Pray for a fresh spirit and renewed faith that reminds you to continuously choose to seek the presence of Jesus in your life. With open hands, spend this week giving God everything on your plate and allow Him

to prune away the things that don't belong so you can prioritize His loving presence and guidance in your life.