



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired the movie by "Country Rain"

INTRODUCTION

Pete Ford has built the career most country musicians only dream of. But success has come at a cost: his wife Angie is done waiting for a life together that keeps getting deferred for the road, the tour, the next show. When she steps back, Pete is forced to stop and look at what he's built, and what he's neglected. Time away brings him across the path of an older man named Mac, whose plainspoken friendship helps Pete see things more clearly. What follows is a real reckoning: Pete has to decide whether his marriage is worth more to him than the applause, and whether the faith he once had still has something to say.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. SUCCESS AND SATISFACTION

- Pete has the career, the crowd, the applause, and it still isn't enough to keep his marriage intact. What does his story say about the limits of achievement, and what it can't actually provide?

Read Psalm 16:11 and Matthew 6:33. How do these passages describe the fullness of joy found in God's presence and in seeking Him first? What would it look like to actively pursue that kind of deeper satisfaction in your own life, alongside the good things you're working toward?



2. MUTUAL MENTORSHIP

- Pete doesn't choose to slow down; Angie's ultimatum forces it on him. Sometimes it takes losing momentum, or the threat of losing something, before we're willing to actually look at our lives. What does it cost Pete to finally stop and pay attention?

- Read Psalm 46:10 and Haggai 1:5-7. Both passages are addressed to people who needed to be told, directly, to "consider your ways." Where has it taken a disruption, rather than your own initiative, to get you to reassess something important?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. REAL FRIENDSHIP



- Mac doesn't flatter Pete or tell him what he wants to hear; he gives him perspective Pete can't get from a crowd cheering his name. What does it look like to have, or to be, a friend who tells the truth rather than just offering encouragement?

- Read Proverbs 27:6 and Proverbs 27:17. "Faithful are the wounds of a friend" is a hard verse; it says real friendship sometimes hurts as it helps. Who in your life tells you the truth even when it's not what you want to hear, and do you actually listen to them?

4. FIGHTING FOR WHAT MATTERS

- By the film's end, Pete recognizes that his marriage and family are worth more than the applause of a crowd, and he actively chooses to pursue and rebuild that relationship. What does his choice cost him, and why is it still the right one?

- Read Ephesians 5:25 and Luke 14:28. Both passages tie love to cost: Christ's love for the church was costly, and Jesus tells his followers to count the cost before committing to anything real. Are there areas in your life that you've been reluctant to surrender to God because it will cost you?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION

Where in your life have you achieved success only to sense that it hasn't quite fulfilled you?

Is there a relationship that could use your renewed attention and pursuit this week? Consider who a "Mac" might be in your life, whether someone you can learn from or someone you might mentor, and take a step to invest in that relationship this week.



PRAYER

Close the Bible study with a time of prayer, thanking God for the good gifts of achievement, calling, and career, while asking Him to keep our hearts anchored in what matters most, and to make us willing to make costly sacrifices for Him.

Pray for marriages and families to be places of real, active love. Pray also for wise, faithful friendships that speak the truth in love, and for the courage to be that kind of friend to others.



CONCLUSION

Like Pete, achieving our dreams doesn't always mean we've found what we're truly looking for. God often uses slowing down and the voice of wise friends to draw us back to Himself and to the relationships that matter most. Encourage each other to actively pursue those relationships and to seek the deeper joy found in God's presence, trusting that He delights in leading us back to Himself, who truly satisfies.