

## **A NEW THING**

### **Big Idea**

God wants to do a new thing in our lives. God wants us to let go of things that continually hold us back so that we can experience joy and be effective and find His purpose in our lives. Think about one thing you desire from God. What one thing is standing between you and God changing your life? What are you holding onto that is holding you back? What one thing do you need to let go of?

God does not expect you to make changes by yourself. God makes these promised to help you:

- He will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)
- To be your ever-present help in trouble (Psalms 46:1)
- To forgive all your sins (1 John 1:9)
- To give you eternal life through Christ (John 10:27-28)
- Nothing will separate you from God's love (Romans 8:39)
- You are more than conquerors (Romans 8:37)
- To give you power to defeat Satan (James 4:7)
- You won't be tempted beyond what you can handle (1 Corinthians 10:13)
- To guide you and give you direction (Psalms 32:8)
- To give strength to the weary and power to the weak (Isaiah 40:29)
- To meet every need you have from his riches (Philippians 4:19)
- To make everything work for your good (Romans 8:28)
- To give you a peace that goes beyond your understanding (Philippians 4:7)

### **Scripture**

- **Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)**

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Consider the promises above. Do one of these promises stand out to you more than the others? What do you think it is about that promise that resonates with you?
2. Think about a time when you stopped holding on to something in your past. How did God help you to let go of it? How did your life change after you let go of that thing in your past?
3. If you feel comfortable, share with the group one thing that you want God to do for you. What will it take for that to become a reality for you this year? Which of God's promises (can be one that is not listed) can you claim?

### **Prayer Focus**

Lord, thank You for being with us and giving us Your promises. We can count on you because You are faithful and never break Your promises. Help us to trust You. Help us to live our lives so that we make a difference for others for eternity.

### **Next Steps**

Prayerfully consider what steps you need to take to so that you will see new things in your life in 2023. If you need guidance, ask the Lord to make Himself known to you, and seek out other believers to pray with you.

### **Leader Tip**

Consider the effect of the past on those in your group. Be sensitive to and encourage those in your group to understand that God has an abundant life for them. Let them know they can trust you to pray for them.