Life Group Discussion Guide

OAKHILL — Making Room for God's Goodness and Kindness

25 October 2026

Key Scriptures: Psalm 23:6; John 15:1–5; Genesis 39:2, 21; Genesis 50:20

Start the Conversation

Looking back over this year, is there a moment when something unexpected turned out differently from what you had planned?

1. God's Goodness in Every Season

Psalm 23:6 says that God's goodness and lovingkindness will follow us all the days of our lives. David's confidence does not mean every day will be easy; the psalm also speaks of dark valleys and enemies. God's goodness is not limited to seasons when life makes sense. It is rooted in His faithful presence.

- Why is it sometimes easier to recognise God's goodness when looking back than while we are in a difficult season?
- What might it look like to trust God's goodness even when your circumstances have not changed?

2. Fruitful, Not Just Full

In John 15:1–5, Jesus describes Himself as the true vine and His Father as the gardener. Even fruitful branches are pruned so they can bear more fruit. The sermon used a matted, fluffy cat and a weed-filled lawn to show how something can look impressive or full without actually being healthy. Jesus calls us to remain in Him rather than measure fruitfulness by how busy we are.

- Where might you be confusing a full life with a fruitful life?
- How can we make room to remain connected to Jesus without turning it into another task on our list?

3. God Is Present in the Waiting

Joseph's story includes betrayal, slavery, false accusation and prison. Yet Genesis 39:2 and 39:21 both emphasise that the Lord was with him. The kindness shown to Joseph is described by the Hebrew word hesed — God's steadfast, faithful love. Joseph did not know how his story would unfold, but God's presence was not dependent on the outcome.

- What stands out to you about God being with Joseph in both Potiphar's house and prison?
- How could remembering God's faithful presence change the way we approach waiting or uncertainty?

4. Making Room for God

In Genesis 50:20, Joseph recognises that God brought good out of what others intended for harm. This does not mean the harm itself was good, or that every difficult experience is God pruning us. In the sermon, making room also meant loosening the grip on good plans and expectations in order to

follow God's leading. The invitation is not simply to make room for change, but to make room for God Himself.

- Is there a plan, expectation or responsibility you may be holding so tightly that it is difficult to hear God's leading?
- What is one practical way you could make room to listen to God this week?

5. Goodness That Pursues Us

Returning to Psalm 23:6, the sermon highlighted that "follow" carries the sense of pursuing. God's goodness and hesed are not simply waiting at the end of a hard season. His faithful love accompanies His people through it. The greatest gift of His goodness is not only what He gives, but that we get to be with Him.

- How does the picture of God's goodness pursuing us shape the way you think about Him?
- Where have you noticed His care or presence this year, even in something small?

This Week — Look Back. Make Room. Look Ahead.

Look Back: Thank God for one way you have experienced His goodness and kindness this year.

Make Room: Set aside a little unhurried time to be with God, without trying to accomplish anything.

Look Ahead: Bring one uncertainty or unfinished part of your story to Him in prayer.

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for Your goodness and faithful love in every season. Help us recognise Your presence even when we do not understand what is happening. Teach us to remain in Jesus, to release what we need to release, and to make room for You. Give us courage to trust You with the parts of our stories that are still unfinished. Amen.