



LOOP Study Guide You Have Access Week 3

Key Scripture:

Romans 5:1-5

Theme: ACCESS GRANTED →
THE FAITH CIRCLE

L — LOOK (Observe the Text)

Read: Romans 5:1–5

Paul lays out a powerful progression of faith:

Problems → Endurance → Character → Hope

This isn't random—it's a process that only works because of **access to God through Jesus**.

Key truths from the passage:

- We are **made right with God by faith**
- We now **stand in grace**
- Problems are not removed—they are **redefined**
- God uses pressure to **produce something deeper in us**

“Access doesn't remove problems—it reassigns them.”

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you most in this passage?
- Why do you think Paul starts with *problems* instead of victory?
- How is this progression different from how people normally think about faith?
- What does it mean to you personally to “stand in grace”?

O — OBSERVE (What Does It Mean?)

1. Problems Are the Starting Point

Problems aren't interruptions—they are **entry points** into growth.

- Pressure reveals what's inside us
- Problems expose our foundation
- They push us into dependence on God

“Problems are not proof that God has left you—they are proof that God is working on you.”

Discussion Questions

- How do you typically respond when problems hit: run, resist, resent... or remain?
- Can you think of a time when pressure revealed something in you?
- What's one current situation where you're asking "why"... instead of "what is God doing in me?"

2. Endurance Is Staying Power

Endurance is the ability to **stay when everything in you wants to leave.**

- Not loud or emotional—quiet, steady faith
- Choosing not to quit
- Trusting God even when nothing changes

"Pressure doesn't decide your future—your endurance does."

Discussion Questions

- Where in your life are you tempted to quit right now?
- Why do you think endurance is so difficult for people?
- What's the difference between *waiting* and *enduring*?
- How can a group like this help each other endure?

3. Character Is What's Built

Character is who you become because you **stayed in the process.**

- Built under pressure, not comfort
- Produces consistency and stability
- Prepares you to sustain what God gives

"If God gave you everything instantly, you wouldn't have the character to sustain it."

Discussion Questions

- What kind of character has God been building in you recently?
- How have past struggles shaped who you are today?
- Why do people often want outcomes without formation?
- What is God more concerned with: your comfort or your development? Why?

4. Hope Is Confidence Built Through Experience

This is not wishful thinking—it's **proven confidence in God.**

- Rooted in what God has already done
- Strengthened through real-life experience
- Anchored by the Holy Spirit

"I've been through too much with God to doubt Him now."

Discussion Questions

- How is biblical hope different from optimism?
- When has God proven Himself faithful in your life?

- What helps you hold onto hope when nothing is changing?
- Why do some people never reach this level of hope?

O – OWN (Apply It Personally)

The **Faith Circle**:

Problems → Endurance → Character → Hope → back to Problems (with a new perspective)

Once you have access to God:

- Nothing is wasted
- Everything has purpose
- Every cycle builds you

Discussion Questions (OWN)

- Where are you currently in the Faith Circle?
 - Stuck in problems?
 - Learning endurance?
 - Being shaped in character?
 - Holding onto hope?
- What is one area where you've been trying to escape instead of trust the process?
- What would it look like for you to "remain" instead of run this week?
- How does knowing you already have access to God change how you face your current situation?

P – PRACTICE (Live It Out)

This Week's Challenge:

Instead of asking:

- "Why is this happening to me?"

Start asking:

- "What is God producing in me?"

Action Steps

- Identify one current problem → write what it might be producing in you
- When pressure hits → pause and **lean into God instead of reacting**
- Practice **remaining instead of escaping**
- Remind yourself daily: *"I'm not outside trying to get to God—I'm already standing in grace."*

Group Practice

- Share one current struggle with the group
- Pray specifically for **endurance and trust in the process**
- Encourage each other by reminding: *"God is building something in you."*

Closing Thought

You don't just have access to God on your best day...
You have access to God in your worst moment.

“The enemy thought it would break you... but God is using it to build you.”

Final Reflection Question (Close the Group)

- What would change in your life if you truly believed that **every problem has purpose because you have access to God?**

THINGS HAPPENING AT FRESH START CHURCH:

- **The Table Women’s Gathering - Sunday, April 26th.** Connecting Fresh Start women of all ages and stages of life for friendship, growth and encouragement. Event is free of charge. Bring a “theme based” appetizer or dessert dish to share. We’ll be getting to know God and each other a little better. The Table begins at 6pm.
- **ImpACT Golf Classic Giveaway Baskets** - Our ImpACT golf tournament will benefit the Atlantic City Rescue Mission this year. Our LOOPs are asked to help provide giveaway baskets that will be raffled off this year to help raise more funds. **Bring baskets to the church by Sunday, May 10th.**

Here’s a message from the tournament’s organizer, Jim DiDomenico with more info...

LOOP contribution has continued to make an extraordinary effort by providing IMPACT Auction Basket Prizes. Below is a list of guidelines to help build your basket:

1. The basket prize value minimum of \$80
2. Arrange items in the basket nicely and neatly to show appreciation to auction participants for their support.
3. Don’t hesitate to go outside your loop to help build your basket. Great way to extend God’s love working through Fresh Start.
4. Creative ideas are wide open, but here are a few past gems: Sport Equipment Basket, Kids Toys Basket, Grilling Basket, Pet Basket, At The Shore Basket, Spa Basket (a gift card can be used to accent the basket)
5. Date to collect baskets is requested to bring Sunday morning at either of the services. Please put inside the big glass room in lobby. Truly Thankful For Coming Alongside Each Classic Mission Event