



# NS LIFE GROUPS

NorthStar Church  
Ebenezer – Ghost of Christmas Future  
Matthew 26:36-54  
December 16, 2018

**Main Idea:** How to deal with the Ghost of Christmas future.

**Icebreaker:** What is your biggest fear of the future and why? (Allow group members to share their answers.)

**Study:**

Use your sermon notes, the following points, and the scripture listed to read through and discuss within your group.

**3 keys to defeating ghosts of the future:**

1. **Never walk through adversity alone. (v.36-38)** We all need people we can deeply trust in our lives. We don't always need their advice but do need their presence during the hardest seasons of life.
  - a. Can you name 3 people in your life that you would trust to share with them your biggest problems? Why them?
  - b. Are you that person for someone?
2. **Ask God to remove the hardship. (v.39-44)** Be persistent in your prayer but always willing to defer to the will of God since that is ultimately what is best for us even when we don't understand it.
  - a. What is it you need to persistently pray about in your life and how can we pray with you?
  - b. Have there ever been times that God hasn't removed a hardship that you prayed persistently about? How have you responded to and processed those times?
3. **Acknowledge and believe that God could change your circumstances in an instant. (v.52-54)**
  - a. Have you ever experienced God instantly changing your circumstances in response to prayer?

**Application:**

We heard four action steps to take in response to this message if a "ghost of the future" is looming over us:

1. Develop a strategy to change what you can.
2. Ask God to remove the rest.
3. Ask close, trusted friends or family to walk with you through it.
4. Pray for it all persistently. (Let's start right now)

- Is there currently a future situation that you need to take one or more of these action steps on?
- What is your specific plan to do that?

**Pray:**

Pray for each person in your group and their various requests. Pray for each person to be freed from the worry of the future. Pray for any needs that came up during today's discussion.