



## WEEK 3: STILL ALICE

Welcome to week three of the small group guide for the At the Movies series. As we continue in this series, I hope that each week's discussion will be an opportunity for you and your group to dig deeper into each weekend's sermon and discover what God has for you.

**If you were unable to watch the sermon last weekend**, please make sure you catch the replay on Wednesday at 7 PM at [firstdecalur.org](http://firstdecalur.org).



### START

Before we dive into the deeper conversation this week, please take some time to **share with one another by answering the questions below**.

- Pastor Brian started the sermon this weekend by sharing that he is drawn to action movies while his wife prefers love stories. Have each person in your group share their favorite type or genre of movie and why.
- This week's movie is a love story, albeit a difficult love story. Think about the genre of love stories for a moment. What is it about this type of story that is so powerful?

**Now that you are warmed up, let's dive in.**



### WATCH THE VIDEO

As Pastor Brian mentioned in the sermon and the video, there are three ways we respond to trials in our lives. **The first** is to downplay the experience and dismiss the suffering. **The second approach** is to run from God, or even blame God. **The third option** is to run to God and press into our relationship with him. When we choose option three, we can hand our cares and needs over to him daily.

- As you think about these three options and the diagram Pastor Brian drew in the video, take a minute to consider seasons of your life when you've chosen different options. Why do you think people choose option one or option two. What are they hoping the result will be?
- Think about your own experiences and the experiences of people you know. What are the typical results of choosing option one or option two?
- Share with your group about a time you chose option three. What was the circumstance? What good came from choosing option three?
- One of the ways we learn is from hearing how God has worked in the lives of others. With that in mind, share what you have learned about God's promises, and how you have found them to be true over time.
- Pastor Brian mentioned several passages in the video. They are listed below. Take time to read each passage out loud as a group and discuss what these passages mean for the trials you are facing or have faced.

**Passages from the video.**

- 1 Peter 5:7
- Psalm 34:17-19
- Isaiah 43:1-2
- John 16:33
- Philippians 3:17-21
- Revelation 21:1-4



## CARING FOR CAREGIVERS

In the sermon, Pastor Brian shared from Psalms Chapter 6. In this Psalm, David gives the reader a close look at his inner life. Specifically we get to see his pain, fear and exhaustion. However, the Psalm ends with David being confident that God has heard his cries and will respond.

As Pastor Brian mentioned, like David we each experience struggles, but there are many around us who understand these struggles on a daily basis as they provide care for a loved one. More than likely, you know someone, maybe even someone in your group right now, who is taking care of a loved one with an illness, disease, or disability. While we certainly want to pray for individuals who are impacted by illness, disease or disability, we also need to take time to encourage and serve those who take care of others.

- Take a minute to consider someone you know who is a care giver for a loved one. If you are the one providing care, it is OK to pick yourself. Share with the group about the situation that came to mind, and make a list of the individuals that were mentioned. When the list is complete, take a moment to pray for each person by name as a group.
- Once you've prayed, think about one way you could serve and encourage a care giver this week. Share with your group how you will do that. Then have someone close your group time in prayer.

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