

SHADOWLANDS

Worship Resource Leader Guide

A Quick Introduction

Journey through the Shadowlands is a story based curriculum meant to explore the emotional themes common to experiences of suffering. In this guide we will explain how the curriculum is meant to be used in the context of corporate worship. For information on how the Sunday School material is to be used, please see the Sunday School Participant Guide's introduction.

The worship resources are meant to be flexible with how you organize worship in your context. Please take or leave any of the following elements to suit your needs. Below you will see a table with each week laid out, an explanation of the worship videos and how to use them, and a description of the final worship service as we designed it.

| WEEK | THEME/TITLE | SCRIPTURE | PSALM* |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| WEEK 1 | Confusion / <i>“Plunged into Darkness”</i> | Job 1:6-12, 42:1-6 | Psalm 88 |
| WEEK 2 | Anger / <i>“Reacting to the Darkness”</i> | John 11:1-44 | Psalm 142 |
| WEEK 3 | Denial / <i>“Dwelling in the Darkness”</i> | Luke 22:39-46 | Psalm 13:1-4 |
| WEEK 4 | Sadness / <i>“Surrendering in the Darkness”</i> | John 17:13-19, Matthew 5:14-16 | Psalm 119:105-112 |
| WEEK 5 | Loss / <i>“Fog in the Darkness”</i> | 1 Kings 19:1-8 | Psalm 23 |
| WEEK 6 | Hope / <i>“Hope in the Darkness”</i> | Revelation 21:1-6 | Psalm 139:13-16 |

Video Description

The worship videos can be found on our [YouTube channel](#) (search *youtube.com* for “*The Story Pastor*”) or downloaded for free if you sign up for our newsletter. They are labeled by episode number corresponding with the week of the series. The videos are designed to get your congregants into the emotional space of each week's theme. The story follows a family going through a time of suffering and all videos involve the family dinner table. We designed them to be played right before the sermon but you can use as you see fit.

Last Worship Service

As you watch the worship videos you will notice symbolism which point toward the last week. The videos are mainly shot around the family's dinner table. The table usually has some form of communion elements on it. The daughter with her back facing you has a purple ribbon in her hair and the last video is of her grown up. We designed the last service to include communion. For ideas and information on how you can integrate the table from the videos into the last service sign up for our newsletter and download our additional resources.

*The Psalms are used in the Sunday School Curriculum and provided here as an option for worship as well.