

Olive Drab

Pom-Poms

Study  
Guide

7 - week  
Small Group  
Guide

Olive Drab Pom-Poms

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## Introduction:

Welcome to the adventure! This small group guide is an extension of the book *Olive Drab Pom-Poms*. Someone had mentioned using the book for a small group study, an idea I absolutely loved, but I have a difficult time replacing our time in God's Word with reading a book. Honestly, I really like the book, but it has nothing on the inspired scripture.

This guide walks the group through the book, reading a chapter a week. Then pulling out scripture from those chapters, it helps individuals dig deeper into God's Word. Ideally, participants will enjoy the book, but fall even more in love with scripture and how God really relates to our lives as military wives.

Military-wife life is truly an adventure and one God has designed for us. May God use this time to help us see what He has in store and draw us closer to others as they seek to do the same.

Living for real –

**Kori**

## Week One: Part of the Game

Day 1 -

Read: Introduction and Chapter One

Genesis 2:4-25

1. Do you relate to the perspective of the cheerleader? How is she like you? How is she different?
2. Irreplaceable is a pretty strong word. Describe a time when you felt irreplaceable to your husband and/or family?
3. How does the story of Adam and Eve demonstrate the irreplaceable nature of wives to their husbands?
4. Spend time today praying about what God wants to teach you during this study. Ask Him to guide you in strengthening your marriage and learning a little more of what He has designed marriage to be.

Day 2 -

Read: Ephesians 5:22-33

1. Yesterday we talked about being Irreplaceable. How does this concept tie into Paul's explanation of husband and wife roles in Ephesians?
2. How do you see your role in your marriage? How does being a military couple affect the roles of marriage?
3. List five things you contribute to your marriage. List at least five things your husband contributes to the marriage. This is a step to get us thinking. Sometimes as military wives we feel like we take care of just about everything. We need to consciously remember what our husbands contribute in order to maintain an attitude of appreciation.
4. Spend some time in prayer today asking God to open your eyes to not only what you contribute to your marriage, but also what your husband contributes. Ask Him to help you to experience joy in your time with your husband.

Day 3 -

Read: Genesis 2:22-24

Numbers 30:1-16

1. Why did you marry your husband? What does the word covenant mean to you?  
What did you learn about vows we make in Numbers 30?
2. How does your marriage demonstrate the relationship between Christ and the church?  
What part do you play in that demonstration?
3. We read in Genesis 2:24, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." How do you explain or demonstrate this in your marriage?
4. Pray today for God to speak to your heart about the covenant you made to your husband and how He wants you to fulfill that promise.







## Week Two: Stunts

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 2

1 Corinthians 12

1. How much did you know about being a military wife before you jumped in? What would you have liked to know before starting?
2. What part of the analogy between cheerleader stunts and military wives makes sense to you? Do you see any other similarities? If so, share!
3. What gifts do you feel like God has given you? How have you used them during your time as a military wife?
4. Pray today about the gifts God has given you and how He would have you to use them. This is also a great time to pray about being able to see the gifts that God has given others and encouraging them in that.

Day 2 -

Read: Matthew 20:20-28

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

1. What does the word service mean to you? What acts of service have you performed lately?

2. What do we learn from Matthew 20:20-28 about what service really is and how does it contrast with today's society?

3. In 2 Corinthians we read about sowing and reaping. What do these verses tell us about our attitude toward service? What is the promise given in verses 13 and 14?

4. Pray today for God to show you opportunities for service and ask Him to make your heart desire to serve Him through serving others.

Day 3 -

Read: Matthew 10:46-52

Romans 12:1-12

1. What did you learn from Bartimaeus? Have you ever felt like him - calling out and everyone tells you to be quiet, Jesus is busy? How did it play out?

2. Have you ever felt like God was asking you to do more than you could? How did you resolve it - did you do it anyway in faith or not do it at all - and what was the result?

3. What gifts has God given you? How have you used those gifts?

4. Spend time in prayer today talking to God about the gifts He has given you - what they are, how He would have you use them, etc.

Day 4:

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Galatians 6:1-10

1. According to the book and our Scriptures for today, how does love play into our service?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Describe a time you were tired of "giving". Why did you feel that way? How did you overcome it or how are you working through it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Looking at our Scripture today, what does our service to people have to do with our service to God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Pray today for God to open your eyes to the service He would have you to do. Also spend time asking God to renew your spirit and create in you an even greater heart for service.

Day 5 -

Read: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Colossians 3:23-24

Hebrews 6:9-12

1. When we read in the book about living a cannonball life, we saw that God wants us to jump in with everything and trust Him. How do our verse in Colossians and Hebrews help us to do that better?

2. Reading about David, he seemed an unlikely candidate for king - even Samuel thought so. Have you ever felt like an unlikely choice for what God was asking you to do? Have you known someone who seemed an unlikely choice to fulfill their calling? Please explain.

3. David made mistakes, as we all know, but there was a drastic difference in him. What was it and would God describe you the same way? Why or why not?

4. Spend time today praying not just for something to do, but for a heart like David's. Pray that your heart would reflect your Savior's.

## Week Three: Bring It On!

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 3

James 1:2-12

1. Have you faced the blizzard - what trials have you had? How did you work through them?
2. According to the verses from James, what assurance is given to us regarding trials? What steps should we take in dealing with trials we face?
3. What promises does James give us for persevering through trials?
4. Take time today to talk to God about the trials you are facing. Or if you are in a more comfortable place in life right now, ask God to prepare your heart and mind so that you will be ready when the trials come.

Day 2 -

Read: Hebrews 10:19-23

Psalm 27

1. What do you think of when you see the word attitude? Through the scripture for today, what attributes make up a godly attitude?

2. According to our verses in Hebrews, what directions are we given for our attitude and what promises accompany them?

3. David speak with such confidence in his prayer in Psalm 27. What encouragement does reading his prayer give us?

4. Use Psalm 27 as your prayer for today. Feel free to add to it if you feel led, but speak these words of scripture.

Day 3 -

Read: Psalm 55

Matthew 6:25-34

1. Reading through Psalm 55, we saw some pretty crazy stuff - some of it to which we could probably relate. What promises are we given in verses 22 and 23?
2. I love the final phrase of Psalm 55 - "But as for me, I trust in you." This seems to be the answer, simply trusting Him. Are you successful in "trusting?" How do you continue to trust in the middle of challenges?
3. Our verses in Matthew talk a lot about worry. This is probably what I struggle with most in the midst of challenges. What does God tell us about worrying and how do we avoid it?
4. Pray today that God would help you to trust Him more and to remember to focus on Him in the midst of our challenges.



Day 4 -

Read: Philippians 4:4-9

Psalm 119:105-112

Hebrews 10:23-25

1. Our passage from Philippians talks about the importance of prayer – a vital component to overcoming challenges. What are the results of prayer shared in these verses?
2. In our verses from Psalm, the writer makes some promises to God along with some requests. Make a list of both. How does your time reading God's word play into fulfilling the promises of the Psalmist?
3. According to the verses in Hebrews, why is it important for us to gather together as Christians? What are some ways we can meet together?
4. Spend time today talking to God about these three areas and how you can be more committed to each.

Day 5 -

Read: Titus 2:3-6

1 Samuel 18:1-4; 23:16-18

1. What are some instructions given to us in Titus as women - both young and old?
2. Why is it important that we develop these close relationships with other women rather than men?
3. According to the verses in 1 Samuel, what characteristics did the friendship between David and Jonathan have? How does that compare to the relationships we have with our battle buddies?
4. Pray today for those special "battle buddies" God has placed in your life. If you have yet to find one or two of them, pray that God will bring them into your life.

## Week Four: Overtime

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 4

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

1. Have you experienced "overtime" as a military spouse? Describe your most challenging overtime.
2. Reading from Ecclesiastes, we see there is a "time for everything." What promises are given in these verses?
3. In verses 12 and 13, what instructions are given? How will these instructions help in dealing with overtime?
4. Take time to pray today for a heart and mind that begins to see a bigger picture - understanding God's timing.

Day 2 -

Read: Philippians 2:14-16

Hebrews 12:1-3

Proverbs 4

1. How do you relate to the analogy of running (page 46) with the overtime you experience?

2. According to Proverbs 4, what are some of the instructions given to us so that our steps will not be hampered and we will not stumble?

3. Our verses in Philippians and Hebrews also give us some instructions for our run. What are some of those instructions and where should our focus be?

4. Pray today that when faced with overtime, we will continue to run the race as God would have us and keep our focus on Him.

Day 3 -

Read: 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

Psalm 25

1. God guides our entire path, even the overtime. According to Psalm 25, what are some of the prayers/requests of the Psalmist? Do you relate?

2. What are some of the promises of Psalm 25? Is this comforting especially in light of overtime?

3. In 2 Corinthians, we see that God did not take Paul's challenges away as Paul asked. What did Jesus tell him? What did Paul learn?

4. Spend time with God today talking about the challenges and understanding his role as instructor in the race of life.

Day 4 -

Read: John 11:1-44

John 12:1-11

1. Reading the story of Lazarus, how did Jesus' actions not meet the expectations of Mary and Martha?
2. What was the result (according to John 12:10-11) of Jesus' actions? How was Jesus plan better than Mary and Martha's?
3. What does the story of Lazarus teach us about our expectations?
4. Spend time today acknowledging God's sovereignty and praising Him for the "better plan" He has for us.

Day 5 -

Read: Hebrews 11:39-40

Psalm 62:1-2, 5-8

1. The verses in Hebrews remind us that others have experienced things/events in their lives they did not completely understand. What is the promise of verse 40?

2. How does the promise of verse 40 change our focus when we experience overtime?

3. The words of the Psalmist seem so confident in his appeal to God to uphold him. What can we learn from him?

4. The Psalmist displays a seemingly simple trust in God - even in the midst of challenging circumstances. Follow his advice in verse 8 in your prayer time today ("trust him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.").

## Week Five: Cut from the Squad

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 5

Psalm 15

1. Do you know ladies who have gone through divorce or the death of a spouse? How did they deal with it and were you able to help?

2. Psalm 15 gives us some great instructions for life. List some of those instructions.

3. According to the end of verse 15, what is the promise for following these instructions?

4. If you have never experienced being cut from the squad, pray today for God to open your heart to understand a little more about the feelings and challenges it entails. If you have been cut from the squad, pray for continued healing and possibly even the opportunity to serve Him through your experience.



Day 2 -

Read: Psalm 46

Psalm 47

1. Psalm 46 gives us multiple promises and celebrates God's certain triumph in all things. It also lists multiple things that "God is," using analogies. List some of the things "God is."

2. Psalm 46-10 gives us some instructions. What is the first instruction we are given? Is this a challenge for you?

3. Psalm 47 is a Psalm of praise. My favorite is verse 2 that says "How awesome is the Lord Most High." Read through these verses again and list some things God has already done.

4. Spend time in prayer today just being still and listening.

Day 3 -

Read: Job 27:1-10

Job 38:1-7

Job 42:1-6

1. Job faced some major trials. What are two things you learned in reading about him today?

2. How did Job react to his trials? What was God's response to Job's questions?

3. How did Job respond to God in the end?

4. As you pray today, ask God to lead you to trust Him more - realizing that He is God of the universe and you can rest in Him.

Day 4 -

Read: Deuteronomy 31:1-8

Joshua 1:1-9

1. How do you think Joshua felt when Moses died and he was chosen to lead the people to the Promised Land? How does this compare to the feelings of those who have been cut from the squad or experienced other challenges?

2. What were God's instructions to Joshua. He used one phrase repeatedly and then check out Joshua 1:8.

3. When we have been cut from the squad or experienced other challenges, we need to recover and then train. How do we apply what we have learned from Joshua to the training aspect?

4. Pray today that those cut from the squad will be strong and courageous. Pray the same for yourself as you tackle what God has called you to.

## Day 5 -

Read: Proverbs 3:1-10

1 Kings 8:56-61

1 Peter 5:6-11

1. We must train, regardless of whether or not we have been cut from the squad. Training can be a struggle. It can also seem monotonous. Proverbs gives us some training advice, but also some promises. What are some of the promises listed?

2. In 1 Kings, Solomon is addressing the people of Israel after dedicating the temple. He shares the promises God has already fulfilled. In verse 61, He gives the Israelites instructions to secure further blessings. What were those instructions?

3. 1 Peter gives a very specific list of how to continue training and then reminds us that God will restore us and make us strong, firm, and steadfast. Think about and list times when God has restored you or made you strong.

4. Pray today for continued strength and steadfastness as you train as well as for those who have been cut from the squad.

## Week Six: Pom-Poms of a Different Color

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 6

Psalm 48

1. Looking at the prospect of transitioning from military to civilian life, list at least two things you look forward to most and two things you look forward to least.

2. God has done some amazing things along your journey in this military life. Reflect on those times and list at least two here.

3. Psalm 48 does exactly what we just did. The Psalmist reflects on what God has done for the nation of Israel. He finishes with verse 14. Write down this verse in your own words.

4. Spend time today thanking God for all He has done and praise Him for being the same God today.

Day 2 -

Read: Ephesians 5:22-33

1 Peter 3:1-7

1. What was your understanding of submission growing up and how has it changed as an adult?

2. The verse in Ephesians and 1 Peter give instructions for both husbands and wives. List some of them here.

3. According to 1 Peter 3:4-5, how is true beauty defined? How well do those words define you?

4. Talk to God today about your true beauty. Also spend time in prayer regarding submission, asking God to open your heart to what He wants to teach you.

## Day 3 -

Read: Genesis 12:1-9

Hebrews 11:8-16

1. How does Sarah's story compare with our own? What are the similarities and differences?
2. What is told about her in Hebrews? Was she considered successful in following? (v. 13-16)
3. What do we learn about submission from Sarah? What does true submission mean and who do we submit to above all?
4. Pray today for a willing heart to be submissive most of all to God himself and for Him to remind us that ultimately He is in control of all

Day 4 -

Read: Matthew 19:4-6

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

1. How do the discussion of teamwork and the verses in Matthew tie together? How do we work to make this a reality?

2. Wisdom is an awesome blessing that only comes from God. According to 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, how do we gain that wisdom?

3. When planning for a change in pom-pom color, we can get overwhelmed with the details. What guidance and assurance are we given in these verses?

4. Spend time today asking God for His wisdom and also for help in maintaining our focus on Him through times that could otherwise overwhelm us.



Day 5 -

Read: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Psalm III

1. In 2 Corinthians 4:7-18, I love verses 8 and 9. How do these verses in particular encourage us in uncertain times?

2. Verses 16-18 challenge us to focus on what is important again. How do these verses help change our perspective?

3. Psalm III brings such joy in the faithfulness of our God regardless of our current circumstances. What verses jump out to you and why?

4. Take time to thank God for His faithfulness and unchanging nature. What an awesome God He is!

## Week Seven: Touchdown!

Day 1 -

Read: Chapter 7

Psalm 145

1. This is the best part - celebration! What do you have to celebrate today?
2. We talked about dancing in the end zone after a touchdown. What are some ways you celebrate the joys and victories of life?
3. Psalm 145 was apparently a celebration by David. What verses do you relate to most now and why?
4. Praise God today for who He is and thank Him for the opportunity to celebrate.



Day 3 -

Read: Exodus 11-12

1. What did you learn about the Israelites and God from Exodus?
2. How does what we learned tie into our topic of celebration?
3. Have you ever celebrated or gotten excited about what God was going to do even though you did not know when or how? Describe the time.
4. Take time today to think about what God has done in your life and praise Him for what He is going to do. Get excited about the adventure!



Day 5 -

Read: Proverbs 5:15-20

Epilogue

1. Proverbs reminds us to be captivated by our spouse and to rejoice in them. List attributes of your spouse for which you are thankful.
2. What a wonderful way to end our study - to rejoice in the God of all creation and the gift He has given us in our spouse. What spoke to you most during this study and why?
3. The Epilogue is the most important part of this book. Before anything else, we need to make sure our relationship with our Savior is secure. Do you know Him? Share your testimony with someone this week.
4. Spend time in prayer today asking God "what now?" What is it that He has called you to be and to do? Then ask Him for strength and wisdom in the journey.

Enjoy the adventure!