



GEEKS UNDER GRACE

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SOLO – A Star Wars Story (2018) | Don't Go It Alone | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversation and personal meditation.

PRESS START

SOLO – A Star Wars Story reportedly had a troubled production, with the original directors let go from the film; longtime director Ron Howard was brought on, reshot much of it, and “started over” to a degree. **Do you recall many films where this has happened and the film turned out alright?** To take that idea and make it a little more practical to our own lives, **have you had situations where you had to “pick up the pieces” left by others and finish something you didn't start? How did it work out?**

EQUIP

Growing up, I thought it was purely coincidental Han Solo had such a name, being the relative loner he was. Sure, he had Chewie as a pal when we met him, but he doesn't get along too well with too many others. We realize in this film fairly early that the Empire actually gave him the last name Solo as he didn't have one available to register for military service. Immediately we see Han strike up a deep connection with Qi'ra on Corellia, and after being separated from her forcefully following their planned escape, it is his fervent desire to do everything he can to have her back in his life again.

With multiple games of Sabaac on display in the film and complicated heist scenarios galore, luck seems to be an assumed necessity in the life Han aspires to live. Still, if luck exists, it's safe to say Han doesn't have any of it early on in life. Orphaned on the streets of a planet covered in industrial grime, Han aspires to something because he has nothing. Still, even as he becomes the smuggler we all know he will be, there are remarkable things that go on in this film involving relationships. The man with nobody finds himself connected to so many people in different ways by the end of the film.

I've heard it said before that the key to life is relationships. Just like Han, there are many who come into life on a bad series of circumstances. Maybe you didn't have the relationship with one or both of your parents like you wanted. Maybe others always had more available to them in the way of opportunities or even the necessities of life. Maybe the only way in life for you is up because you started at rock bottom. The point is that life can be hard; excruciatingly so for some. Still, God wants us to be open to our need for others and for Him.

LEVEL UP

As is often the case when we want fundamental truths, we should start at the beginning.

Genesis 2:18 *“And the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.’ Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever*

Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him."

Of course, **Genesis 2:18** was speaking about God creating Eve as a female companion to accompany Adam, but that comes later. There are more meaningful things that happen beyond that. Yes, Eve was ultimately the helper Adam longed for, but prior to her creation, we see in **Genesis 2:19-20** that the animals were formed and brought to Adam. Even without his "match", so to speak, the plethora of creatures created by God gave Adam purpose in naming them and being a good steward over them. You see, meaningful relationships in life go far beyond just the coupling found in dating/marriage relationships; I believe when we open ourselves up to them, God blesses us with deep, meaningful friendships and the joys that can only come from being responsible for the care of a pet or another human being. Still, blessings come even in the chance meetings we have with strangers we never see again; meaningful interactions can help shape lives in incredible ways through interactions with anyone around us, and God knows all of this outside of what we know and realize.

Genesis 2:21-24 *"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.' Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."*

Adam longed for his helper, Eve, and God was faithful to make her, as we just read. She offered a closeness Adam wanted, which no other creature could provide. This closeness was important for Adam, and they belonged together, joined together for all of their lives. In **SOLO**, it's fairly obvious Han had deep feelings for Qi'Ra that began during their lives on the streets of Corellia, but as this is a prequel, we the audience know she is not the one he is meant to be with. At this point, Han isn't even aware of who Leia is, princess or otherwise; even if he was, she is part of a completely different way of life at this point. There's no way Han could see and understand the full measure of circumstances and experiences that lay before him, be it good or bad; none of us can, either. Still, in this film, it was a hope of love with Qi'Ra that kept Han going, and that alone makes all the good and bad worth it for him. Han was not meant to be Solo, and neither are we. Whether we find a relationship with that one person or not, God blesses us with opportunities to grow closer to those around us every day, as long as we don't focus on ourselves and seclusion.

Some relationships last a lifetime, and some for only a season in life. But one thing is certain: no matter the length or number of meaningful relationships we make with others, God desires the closest relationship of all with us—an eternal one made possible through Jesus.

MOD

Just like Han, we may be betrayed by people around us, but does that mean we stop giving all others a chance for us to trust and open up to them?

How often do we take time to look back on what our various relationships are teaching or have taught us? Is this helpful?

Bad relationships can cause us to draw in and away from others; are you in the midst of a relationship that needs improvement? If so, let's pray about it.

PRAY

Does anyone have any prayer needs outside of what we discussed here?

Let us pray God shows us the value of the various relationships in our lives with family, friends, and acquaintances. Let us thank him that even when others turn their back on us and the world tries to make us feel alone, we are never truly alone. With His indwelling Holy Spirit we possess as believers, we always have a friend to turn to in Jesus.

THE NEXT LEVEL

Romans 5:8 *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

Joshua 1:9 *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

1 John 1:3,7 *"That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ...But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."*

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