

Trigger Warning || Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Group Notes

INTRODUCTION

If God is all-powerful and all-good, then why do bad things happen in the world? This is an age-old question that people have wrestled with throughout the ages. How do we reconcile the goodness of God with the depravity and pain we see in the world? The Bible answers these questions and provides hope for us amid confusion, pain, and the mystery of it all.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- 1. What Thanksgiving dish is your favorite?
- 2. What food did you not want to try, but once you tried it, you found out that it was actually really tasty?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your message notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

WATCH THE VIDEO

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GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1. If you were face to face with God, what questions would you ask Him?
- Read <u>2 Corinthians 1:3-4</u> What do these verses mean to you?
 As followers of Jesus, what do you think should be our response to suffering?
 Talk about a time when another follower of Jesus comforted you during a time of suffering.
- 3. Read Romans 12:15 What does this verse mean to you?

 What are some practical ways to "mourn with those who mourn"?
- 4. How might God uniquely use you to be His hands and feet to someone in a difficult season?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, there are many examples of evil in this world, but there are even more examples of your goodness, grace, and mercy. Please help us see where you are at work, even when things appear to be falling apart. Please help us reach out to those around us who are hurting so we can be your hands and feet to those who don't know you. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Christmas Eve Services are coming! Who are you bringing with you? Start praying for them this
 week
- Leaders, check your email for a message about Rooted, then talk about it with your group.