

Small Group Questions

WHEN GOD DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

Small Group Questions – Week 1

1. List some things about God or life that don't make sense to you. How do these things affect your faith or your trust in God?
2. Describe a time when God said "no" to your prayer. Did it create doubt for you or did you draw in closer to him?
3. Describe a difficult time you were going through when you felt God's all-surpassing strength.
4. What does it look like in your life to carry around the "death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus can be revealed?"
5. What is something you need you stop trying to understand and just trust God with?

Week Two

1. Is there someone's death you have struggled to make sense of? Have you come to peace or are you still wrestling with their passing?
2. Read aloud John 12:24. Where have you seen this principle played out?
3. Read aloud John 12:25. What do you need to "hate" because you are tempted to put it ahead of God?
4. Has a difficult situation or death of a loved one ever change your view of God? If so, how?
5. If you were certain God would use suffering or death, how would that change your perspective on it?
6. Why is it difficult for us to remember that our victory comes from following Jesus to the cross?

Week Three

1. What's the thorn in your side? What have you done to remove it?
2. Have you prayed for God to remove the thorn you mentioned? If so, how? If not, why not?
3. Have you ever experienced God's grace in a special way because of an obstacle or weakness? Share the story with the group.
4. Read aloud 2 Corinthians 12:9. What does this verse mean to you?

5. Paul says he is content with problems for the sake of Christ. What would it look like to accept our problems for Jesus' sake?
6. How do we know when God wants to remove our problems and we should accept them and when God has allowed them in our lives so we will depend on his grace?

Week Four

1. Who was the best boss you ever had? What made them good? Who was the worst boss you ever had? Why were they bad?
2. When have you seen someone abuse their power or position and hurt you or someone you love personally?
3. When have you been surprised by someone who you thought had a bad character or poor values but did some good?
4. How does knowing that we are all fallen help you to understand why God uses imperfect leaders to accomplish his will?
5. God is measuring leaders and how they use their power and authority. What does this mean for how your authority?
6. Daniel says, "The Most High God rules the kingdom of men, and sets over it whom he will." Does that statement comfort you or make you question God more or do you have a different reaction?

Week Five

1. Moses made five excuses to God as to why he can't serve. Which ones have you received from others that frustrates you the most?
2. Which of Moses' excuses have you made when others have asked you to serve?
3. Do you think people who are serving and addressing the world's problems are more or less likely to blame God for the problems in the world? Why do you answer as you do?
4. Do you serve in a ministry? If so, what impact have you seen it have? If not, what prevents or keeps you from serving.
5. Why is changing people's view about Church an important mission? On a scale of 1-5, how important do you view this mission?

6. The premise of the message is that God waits on people before he relieves suffering. Do you agree with this premise? Why or why not?