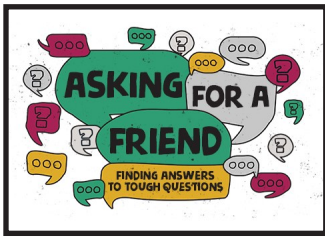


MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP GUIDES



**“WHERE ARE
YOU, GOD?”**

JUNE 7, 2020



“Where Are You, God?”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Existential questions = what we _____ to ask ourselves when the surface meaning of life is stripped away, when routines and expectations are shattered, and when we confront human _____.

There are times in life where the _____ of some situation, event, relationship is so intense, where the suffering we’re experiencing seems to have no end in sight, and where all our prayers seem to only bounce off the ceiling and all we seem to hear from God are the sounds of _____ (note Psalm 22:1).

What do we do when God seems _____?

1. Pain and Trust Can _____

Note Psalm 22:2, 11, 1-2, 27-31

- A. _____ life pain (note Psalm 22:1a) - God = *mighty _____ and strength*. *Forsaken* = _____, *to depart*. Note Psalm 22:1b...when God waits to act when we’re in pain, it _____ deep in our emotions (note Psalm 22:2).
- B. _____ life trust—the phrase _____ tells us things have changed...there’s a 3-letter word that’s also so important = _____ (note Psalm 22:3, 9). _____ is for the times in life when pain and trust need to _____ hand-in-hand. Note Psalm 22:3-5...the _____ is for the times in our lives when we are waiting for the _____ moments...Note Hebrews 11:1. The power of _____ is that it _____ our whole being...to who God is and what He has done.

2. Why Pain + Trust = _____”

Note Psalm 22:1 and Matthew 27: 46

...at one of the unarguably most significant, spiritually _____, and greatest moments in human history...there is from the lips of the Savior this _____ statement...

The most hope-filled, life-giving, and life-transforming event in human history involved an _____ we all fear = being abandoned on _____.

God rescued me and you and a lost world by _____ His Son.

Tough questions do have answers:

- Our painful circumstances can lead us to greater trust...if we will embrace the _____ and discover God is there and at work.
- It's an _____ to trust.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

Let us know, too!

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICEBREAKER WHAT ARE YOU THE MOST EXCITED ABOUT DOING IN A GROUP OF 10 OR LESS?

1. PASTOR TOM BEGAN BY SAYING, “THERE ARE TIMES IN LIFE WHERE THE PAIN OF SOME SITUATION, EVENT, RELATIONSHIP IS SO INTENSE, WHERE THE SUFFERING WE’RE EXPERIENCING SEEMS TO HAVE NO END IN SIGHT, AND WHERE ALL OUR PRAYERS SEEM TO ONLY BOUNCE OFF THE CEILING AND ALL WE SEEM TO HEAR FROM GOD ARE THE SOUNDS OF SILENCE.” **READ PSALM 22:1.** WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WHEN GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY?
2. PASTOR TOM EXPLAINED THAT “PAIN AND TRUST CAN CO-EXIST.” **READ PSALM 22:2, 11-16 AND 27-31.** WHAT DIFFERENT EMOTIONS DOES THE AUTHOR, DAVID, EXPRESS IN THESE VERSES?
3. THERE IS A SMALL 3 LETTER WORD THAT PASTOR TOM EXPLAINED CHANGES OUR PERSPECTIVE “...YET.” **READ PSALM 22:3-5, 9.** DESCRIBE A TIME YOU EXPERIENCED WAITING FOR YOUR “BUT GOD” MOMENT, ALLOWING PAIN AND TRUST TO WALK HAND-IN-HAND.
4. HOW DID OR COULD, “YET,” HELP YOU EXPERIENCE FAITH AS DESCRIBED IN **HEBREWS 11:1** AS YOU WAITED FOR GOD TO ANSWER?
5. PASTOR TOM EXPLAINED WHY PAIN + TRUST = HOPE, WHEN HE SAID, “THE MOST HOPE-FILLED, LIFE-GIVING, AND LIFE-TRANSFORMING EVENT IN HUMAN HISTORY INVOLVED AN EMOTION WE ALL FEAR...BEING ABANDONED ON PURPOSE.” **READ PSALM 22:1** AND **MATTHEW 27:46.** HOW DOES JESUS’ EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO THE FATHER ENCOURAGE YOUR FAITH?
6. IN HIS CLOSING COMMENTS, PASTOR TOM CHALLENGED US: “OUR PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCES CAN LEAD US TO GREATER TRUST, IF WE WILL EMBRACE THE “YET” AND DISCOVER GOD IS THERE AND AT WORK.” WHAT “YET” DO YOU NEED TO EMBRACE TODAY? HOW CAN YOUR GROUP ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT YOU AS YOU ADVANCE TOWARDS GREATER TRUST?

DAY 1: **TITUS 3**

DAY 2: **PHILEMON**

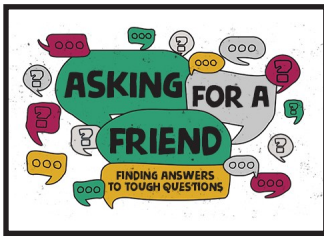
DAY 3: **HEBREWS 1**

DAY 4: **HEBREWS 2**

DAY 5: **HEBREWS 3**

**PERSONAL
GUIDE**





“Where Are You, God?” [Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Existential questions = what we tend to ask ourselves when the surface meaning of life is stripped away, when routines and expectations are shattered, and when we confront human mortality.

There are times in life where the pain of some situation, event, relationship is so intense, where the suffering we’re experiencing seems to have no end in sight, and where all our prayers seem to only bounce off the ceiling and all we seem to hear from God are the sounds of silence (note Psalm 22:1).

What do we do when God seems far away?

1. Pain and Trust Can Co-Exist

Note Psalm 22:2, 11, 1-2, 27-31

- A. Real life pain (note Psalm 22:1a) - God = mighty One and strength.
Forsaken = abandon, to depart. Note Psalm 22:1b...when God waits to act when we’re in pain, it registers deep in our emotions (note Psalm 22:2).
- B. Real life trust—the phrase but God tells us things have changed...there’s a 3-letter word that’s also so important = yet (note Psalm 22:3, 9). Yet is for the times in life when pain and trust need to walk hand-in-hand. Note Psalm 22:3-5...the yet is for the times in our lives when we are waiting for the but God moments...Note Hebrews 11:1. The power of yet is that it anchors our whole being...to who God is and what He has done.

2. Why Pain + Trust = Hope”

Note Psalm 22:1 and Matthew 27: 46

...at one of the unarguably most significant, spiritually defining, and greatest moments in human history...there is from the lips of the Savior this gut-wrenching statement...

The most hope-filled, life-giving, and life-transforming event in human history involved an emotion we all fear = being abandoned on purpose.

God rescued me and you and a lost world by forsaking His Son.

Tough questions do have answers:

- Our painful circumstances can lead us to greater trust...if we will embrace the yet and discover God is there and at work.
- It's an invitation to trust.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

Let us know, too!