

Small Group Questions: Week 3

Ice Breaker: What are you going to do or what did you do for Valentine's Day?

Ice Breaker: Have you ever broken a bone or hurt yourself doing something dumb? Please explain.

On Sunday the message was about reconciling the goodness of God with pain and suffering. What did you find most intriguing or encouraging?

Read Romans 8:14-17. First, describe what each verse means. Now, look for an encouragement from each verse that you can hang on to in difficult circumstances.

Read Romans 8:18-23. Following Paul's logic, how do each of these verses connect?

What are the reasons Paul gives for why our present suffering isn't worth comparing with the future glory to be revealed?

As you focus on verse 18, share a time when you suffered through something without knowing the reason why it was happening at the time.

What questions and emotions did you wrestle with during the process?

Did these questions or emotions cause you to doubt God or question your faith?

Is thinking about heaven and who you will become when you are finally with Jesus face-to-face something you ever think about? Why or why not? If you do think about it, how does thinking about it help you?

What are some practical things you can do or have done to help someone in a time of suffering or difficulty?

Some Helpful Message Reminders

FOR WHEN YOU ENGAGE THOSE WHO ARE HURTING

**WE WILL NOT ALWAYS HAVE ANSWERS THIS
SIDE OF ETERNITY**

THE PAIN MAY CONTINUE TO ENDURE

ACKNOWLEDGE THE PAIN

LET PEOPLE FEEL THEIR EMOTIONS

EVERYONE THAT LOOKS OK MAY NOT BE

THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS IS A GIFT

**THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT FOR PEOPLE
RECOVERING TO PAIN, LOSS, AND SUFFERING**

BE DISCERNING WHEN USING SCRIPTURE

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY

**NEVER IMPLY THAT GOD MAY HAVE A PLAN TO
REPLACE WHAT WAS LOST**

BE A LIGHT