



Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on September 10th, 2023

Isaiah 53:3(NASB)

3 He was despised and abandoned by men,
A man of great pain and familiar with sickness;
And like one from whom people hide their faces,
He was despised, and we had no regard for Him.

Isaiah 53:5 (NASB)

5 But He was pierced for our offenses,
He was crushed for our wrongdoings;
The punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him,
And by His wounds we are healed.

Matthew 27:46 (NASB)

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabaktanei?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Luke 24:39 (NASB)

39 See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, because a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you plainly see that I have."

John 11:25-26 (NASB)

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; the one who believes in Me will live, even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:33-45 (NASB)

33 Therefore when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, 34 and He said, "Where have you laid him?" They *said to Him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could this man, who opened the eyes of the man who was blind, not have also kept this man from dying?"

38 So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, *came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus *said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, *said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus *said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" 41 So they removed the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 But I knew that You always hear Me; nevertheless, because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me." 43 And when He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44 Out came the man who had died, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus *said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

45 Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

Revelation 21:3-4 (NASB)

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among the people, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

Romans 8:18 (NASB)

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

DIGGING DEEPER

Would you rather be in the know or oblivious about everything happening in the world? Why?

In your opinion, why does it seem like anything newsworthy is negative and about some sort of suffering?

According to what you know from the Bible, why is there so much suffering in our world?

Read Isaiah 53:3-5

This passage was fulfilled as a prophecy about Jesus Christ. How does his suffering described in these verses compare to the suffering we experience in the world?

What was the purpose of Jesus suffering through the cross?

Read Luke 24:38-39

How does the fact of Jesus' resurrection from the dead give us hope about suffering?

Read John 11:25-26

How does this statement of Jesus provide comfort and perspective when considering suffering and its place in God's plan?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Revelation 21:3-4

How does this vision of the future inform our understanding of suffering in the present?

If suffering will go away, what's its purpose right now?

What are some questions we ask those who wonder how a loving God could allow so much suffering?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

