Message-Based Questions

Easter Shadows: The Thief on the Cross – "Angry at God" Matthew 27:41-44; Mark 15:32; Luke 23:39-43

1. When was the last time you were angry? What was happening? How do you usually handle anger: Ignore/stuff it? Yell? Talk it over with someone? Go jogging? Talk to God? Journal? Lift weights ?

2. Two related (but not exactly the same) questions: "Is it OK to be angry at God?" and "Is it ok to express anger to God?"

3. The criminals beings executed at the same time as Jesus were angry, and they yelled at him. Different versions of the Bible say that they "insulted," "reviled," "ridiculed," "berated," "taunted," or "reproached" him. Jesus hadn't done anything to them. Why were they angry at him?

4. How can we understand one thief's change from hostile unbeliever to humble believer?

5. Explore the connection between flesh, spirit, heaven, humility, mystery, incarnation, sovereignty and anger toward God.

6. What is your take-away from this message? What changes in thinking and action can you make when you feel anger, especially anger toward God?

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For further study

- 1. How did David, Job, Jonah and others resolve their anger toward God?
- 2. Go to <u>www.thetransformedsoul.com</u> and look for "Dealing with Anger Toward God."