WHAT WOULD Jesus say to

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO, PART 6: PRINCE HARRY

Prince Harry was born on September 15, 1984, and is the youngest son of King Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales. His book *Spare* is the fastest selling nonfiction book of all time. Pulling back the curtain of what it's like to grow up as a royal, Prince Harry's life is all about grief and loss. From the loss of his mum on August 30, 1997, when Diana was killed in a car crash in Paris, to the loss of his family and relationships.

BIG IDEA: Jesus sees your grief and knows your pain. His heart breaks with yours.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you ever dreamed about being a prince or a princess when you were little?
- 2. What interest of any have you had in the royals and the house of Windsor? What do you think about the idea of monarchy and their role in English society?
- 3. One of the things Kim said Jesus might say to Harry is, "You are not a spare. I see you not based upon your title. I planned you, created you, & watched you being formed." <u>With your Bible or Bible App, read</u> <u>Psalm 139:1-5, 16</u>

¹O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. ² You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. ³ You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. ⁴ You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD. ⁵ You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. <u>Psalms 139:1-5, 16 (NLT)</u>

- 4. How does David feel about God's total knowledge of him? Does he feel restricted or protected? Free or oppressed? Why does he bother to pray (verse 4)?
- 5. No doubt Harry can identify with verse 16, "Every moment laid out before a single day has passed." Prince Harry certainly has felt the obligation of his title, but how much different does that look and feel when we filter it through the care of our loving God?
- 6. <u>With your Bible or Bible App, read Ecclesiastes 1:5-9</u>.

⁵ The sun still rises, and it still goes down. ⁶ The wind blows round and round and back again. ⁷ Every river flows into the sea, then the water returns to where the rivers began, and starts all over again. ⁸ Everything leads to weariness. Everything is unutterably weary and tiresome. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied; no matter how much we hear, we are not content. ⁹ History merely repeats itself. Nothing is truly new... <u>Ecclesiastes 1:5-9 (TEV)</u>

- 7. Without knowing your purpose, life will seem tiresome, unfulfilling, and uncontrollable. With which of these three do you most identify? Why?
- 8. Kim said, "We have been created on purpose with a purpose." What purpose do you think God has for your life?
- 9. Atheist Bertrand Russell said, "Unless you assume a God, the question of life's purpose is meaningless." It's not about you. Focusing on ourselves will never reveal our life's purpose. Why is it futile to try to find purpose for our life apart from God?
- 10. The second thing Jesus might say to Prince Harry is, *"I see your grief. I know your pain. My heart breaks with yours."* With your Bible or Bible App, read the following:

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, He recuses those whose spirits are crushed.

Psalm 34:18 (NLT)

³ All praise to God, the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. ⁴ He comforts us in our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4(NLT)

- 11. In what ways have you experienced a broken heart and found your spirits crushed? When that happened, what did you do to move forward?
- 12. Where is the source of all comfort found? What's the relationship between God's ability to comfort us and our ability to comfort others?
- 13. What are some things you may have had to grieve in your life? What things are you grieving right now?
- 14. If you're willing to share, what are some of the healthy ways you've dealt with grief, and what are some of the unhealthy ways you've dealt with grief?
- 15. When a painful loss or life-shattering event upends your world, here is the first thing to know: *there is nothing wrong with grief. "Grief is simply love in its most wild and painful form. It is a natural and sane response to loss."* So, why does our culture treat grief like a disease to be cured as quickly as possible?

MOVING FORWARD

For days, months, years, the pain of the loss can crash in all at once. It is tempting to push that wave of grief back and soldier on with our new lives, but the loss will never lose its controlling power if we don't find the courage and love to face it. Meditating on the loss, along with the rush of love that comes with it, gives us a chance to rejoice in the life that was shared, and to look forward in which memories of our loved ones continue to bless us.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How can you acknowledge some of your grief this week in the presence of God, and with others?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, He recuses those whose spirits are crushed. Psalm 34:18 (NLT)