

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of God**

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of Surrender**

**The Response of the \_\_\_\_\_**

## **Group Questions**

1. Do you more easily remember “good times” or “bad times”?
2. How would you summarize the main idea of Lamentations 2 in a couple of sentences?
3. What is the reason God became like an enemy to Israel and Judah (see also Deut. 28:45-57)? How is God just in His action? How is God faithful to His Word in His action?
4. God’s affliction of the city of Jerusalem shows that God does not take sin lightly and He will not let His people continue in it. How should this cause you to take your sin seriously and to take God’s holiness seriously? What would that look like on a day-to-day basis?
5. This lament mentions a number of “hopes” that God removes from Israel: Israel’s religious hopes (v. 7), Israel’s military hopes (vv. 8–9), and Israel’s political hopes (v. 9). What is God’s purpose in removing these hopes from the nation? How does this actually serve His people? Can you remember when God stripped you of the “hopes” in your life and how that worked for your good?
6. It is really important to see that, even though God was the one afflicting Israel (v.17), they still cry out to him (vv. 18–20). Why is it important to keep going to God in prayer even in the midst of affliction? Is there anything you’re experiencing in life now where this reminder is helpful?
7. Have you ever felt like God was an adversary against you? Have you ever felt like God was completely absent from your life? What are some ways that you responded? Do you think that you responded correctly or not?
8. Why is it important to have a theology of suffering before we suffer? Why do we need a “long view” of things and God’s promises when suffering?
9. What are some ways that your Life Group can help each other in the midst of our lamenting?