

Big Idea

Pastor Curt – Part 5

This week we continued the series “**God is > _____**” with a message about our Disappointments. Most of us enter into life with ideas about all the “perfect” things we expect to experience in our lives...a perfect childhood, perfect friends, finding that perfect spouse, landing the perfect job, buying that perfect house, having the perfect children...and then, LIFE HAPPENS! The Bible is full of disappointed people who messed up time and time again, yet they got their eyes locked on God and He was faithful and proved to be bigger than all of their circumstances. Just hours before He was arrested, tried falsely, condemned, beaten, nailed to a cross, and died Jesus said this to His disciples: **"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** John 16:33

Jesus made it clear that for those who follow Him, life will come with its share of problems. Disappointment is that all-too-frequently occurring emotion we experience anytime reality doesn't meet our expectations. Life is challenging enough when that disappointment only touches the small, relatively insignificant areas of our lives, but far more devastating when it invades the ranks of the truly important things. Pastor Curt tells us three very important things about God we need to know: **God is sovereign** (nothing is out of His control), **God is authentic** (He is who He says He is), **God is involved in our lives** (the end is never the end, there are no dead ends with God) PC closes out by giving us a plan of action on how to deal with disappointment

Discussion Questions

- What is your normal “first response” in times of trouble? What steps can you take to make turning to God your “immediate” response?
- What is the secret for dealing with disappointment from John 16:33? How does this verse help you deal with disappointment?
- Pastor Curt gave us three very important things about God that we need to know. Which would be helpful for you to hold onto when dealing with disappointment?
- Pastor Curt gave us four specific action steps: **Turn to God immediately - Allow others into the situation - Turn your pain into purpose – Live with an eternal perspective.** Talk through them and discuss a plan of action for each step.

Prayer Focus

This week, when you are considering the problems that you are facing, make the choice to pause and allow any disappointment to pass over you. Make the decision to fix your mind on the fact that God is sovereign, authentic, and involved. Thank Him for the fact that the world will fail you, but He never will.

Next Steps

Have group members pray for one another to acknowledge that with God involved, the end is never the end. After that time of prayer for one another, pray for the group to live with an eternal perspective so that the trials of this life become light and momentary.

Leader Tip

Share scriptural examples with the group that demonstrate God's ability to turn disappointment into victory.