

# ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES

## Big Idea

## Pastor Curt – Part 2

As we look to discover ways to survive when we're getting pummeled from all the angles. This week, we learned another way to **Roll With The Punches** by observing how Jesus handled His worst day. No one was ever more compassionate than Jesus. As He hung on the cross between two criminals after being brutally beaten and mocked, Jesus could have focused on His own problems. Instead, He had compassion on the man being crucified next to Him.

Jesus offered that man more than a better now, He offered him a better place. Jesus today offers you more than a better now, He offers you a better place. Jesus helped one who was experiencing His same struggle. To follow Jesus' example, we are called to use our gifts and passions to serve others, and we minister best from the place we have struggled the most. Ministering to others **shifts our focus from our own needs** but also helps us **see the solution to the problems we face**. Helping others through their struggles **puts our problems in perspective and reminds us that there is purpose in our pain**. How can we come alongside fellow strugglers to help them like Jesus did? Pastor Curt gave us 3 things we all can do to help others: 1. Offer them stability, 2. Offer them support, and 3. Offer them salvation.

PC said, "If you give your life on behalf of others, God is going to meet you on your worst day - this will change your life!" We can keep an eternal perspective when times are difficult by remembering that Jesus offers us more than a better now; He offers a better place.

## Discussion Questions

- Think of a time when you were struggling, and someone was there for you. How did this person help you get through your difficult situation? Discuss why it is important to have close friends who support you when you struggle and why being involved in a Small Group is essential.
- Why do you think it is difficult for people to admit they are hurting or struggling? How can you make sure you don't disqualify yourself from helping others when you face your own struggles? Discuss the ways God can teach you as you help someone else through a difficult situation.
- We are called to serve others by using our gifts, passions, and our difficult experiences. Discuss how serving others can change your perspective. Share what you have learned from helping others through difficult situations.

## Prayer Focus

Pray for God to lead you to people with similar life experiences, and ask for the opportunity to help them by sharing what God has taught you. Pray for courage, strength, and the words to show them compassion.

## Next Steps

Ask Identify someone you can help through a difficult situation. Serve them by using your personal story to encourage them and let them know you are there to support them through their struggles.

## Leader Tip

Encourage your group members to serve others through outreach or missions. If there is someone in your group who is struggling, make sure someone in your group is committed to walking with them through their trial.