

EVER WONDER WHY?

Leader Conversation Guide – Ever Wonder Why? (Part I)

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Curt began a new series called, "Ever Wonder Why?". He began the series by addressing the question, "Why didn't God answer my prayer?" Have you ever asked God to move or come through, and nothing happened? You might have thought God would do it, because He could do it, but it still didn't happen the way you thought or wanted it to. This might be one of the toughest questions we can face in our personal lives as believers, because it's one we tend not to open up about. We may be afraid that those around us will look down on us, or tell us we need to have more faith. Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." Opening up to other believers in the midst of our "why" is one way we are actually able to help one another other grow stronger in our faith!

"In all their suffering he also suffered, and he personally rescued them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them. He lifted them up and carried them through all the years."

Isaiah 63:9 NLT

Make it Practical

- **Learn while asking why.** Ask yourself, "Lord, what are you teaching me in this?" Hebrews 5:8 shows that Jesus learned obedience from the things He suffered. Learn while in the waiting. Consume His Word. Lean into God.
- **Love while asking why.** Who can I encourage while I'm going through this? You could be the answer to someone else's pain. Hebrews 13:16
- **Worship while asking why.** When we're going through difficulties, our trial tends to become the number one focus for us. When we worship, we are putting God as number one, above all else, even our hardship. When we worship God through the pain, it changes our perspective. Real worship is trusting God when life doesn't make sense.

Talk About It

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Have you ever had a prayer that went unanswered? How did you work through it?
- What can you do to love others who are going through a "why" season?

**God is not afraid of "Why" questions.
He welcomes them.**

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your steadfast, unchanging love. We know that our ways are not Your ways, and our thoughts are not Your thoughts. Holy Spirit, help us to trust you In the midst of our "why." Reveal to us any areas of growth that need to take place, and strengthen our faith in You. Jesus, we love You, and thank You for the security and comfort You provide us with. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Leader Tip

Encourage Group members to find a Christian friend or mentor they can open up to about "why" questions they have had in the past, but never opened up about. Remind them that your Group is a safe place for those questions. Our growth can be hindered if we avoid the questions we've been confronted with. It's time to face them down so that we can begin to grow deeper In our relationships with the Lord Jesus Christ!