

EVER WONDER WHY?

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

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Curt continued in our series 'Ever Wonder Why' by targeting the question, "God, why did You let that happen?" We live in a world where a lot of things can go wrong. From cancer, to poverty. From sick children, to acts of terrorism. Outside of our Christian bubble, having faith in the midst of difficult circumstances can seem confusing, and maybe even a little crazy. The Bible tells us that God gives "peace that surpasses all understanding." Sometimes that peace can seem hard to come by when life slams us head on. This is why it is so important to be connected to the body of Christ, that we may "carry each other's burdens" (Galatians 6:2) in our time of weakness, for "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." (Ecclesiastes 4:12)

**"..In this world you will have trouble.
But take heart! I have overcome the world."**

JOHN 16:33 NIV

Make it Practical

- Maybe you're simply a victim of a broken world. John 16:33 reminds us, "..in this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Because of The Fall in Genesis, sin entered the world. Though we have Christ with us, we are still susceptible to the fallen nature of the world we live in, but Christ has overcome all of this!
- Maybe you brought it on yourself. We read in Galatians 6:7-8, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction..." Our actions have consequences, and sometimes, even if we are truly repentant for the sins of our past, we must still be held accountable for them outside of eternity. But we can be encouraged that Christ has forgiven us outside of this life.
- Maybe God wants to do something big. In John 9:3, we read, "'Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus, 'but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.'" God is always at work, even in situations that don't make sense this side of Heaven. We can be comforted in remembering that "God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Talk About It

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Have you ever had a time when you doubted the goodness of God in your life?
- What can we do to trust God during the "why?"

**"If love is a choice,
suffering is a possibility."**

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your steadfast love. Even in the midst of difficult circumstances, we know that You are good. Even when the world around us is going crazy, You remain seated steadfast on the throne. Holy Spirit, help us in our moments of weakness and disbelief to trust that You are working all things for good, and holding us in Your hands. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Leader Tip

Encourage Group members to reach out to friends who may be going through a difficult season of life. Jesus restores our hope in times of hopelessness, and we are able to share the hope He gives with others.