

Sunday, March 26, 2017 - "The Facts of Life" - Roc Bottomly

Key Passages: Luke 21:1-38

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Jesus give what is called the Olivet discourse
 - On the Mount of Olives across from the Temple mount
 - A Long conversation with his disciples
- Jesus reveals the future (only God's on could do this)
 - In stunning detail
 - What would happen to his disciples/destruction of Jerusalem
- In those details are embedded what we can and should expect from this life here and now (3 things)
- 1) Life is going to be HARD (a good hard)
 - Life will be at times painfully hard
 - Not all the time BUT there is a misconception that following God will make everything easy/comfortable
 - God takes the difficulties and uses them to make us magnificent people
 - Hard things are a gift to live a great life
 - We envy those who have it easy, but admire those who do what is hard for God
 - The difficult things give opportunity for greatness
- 2) There will always be HELP (powerful help)
 - "I will give you a mouth and wisdom" v15
 - You're not alone (God our father and the spirit our helper)
 - He tells his disciples to stay awake, praying → God answers
 - SUPERNATURAL help
 - **God gives grace to do difficult/hard things WHEN the difficult and hard things happen**
- HOPE (sure hope)
 - Certainty that it will **end well**
 - Death is not an end but just the beginning
 - v18 Not a hair of your head will perish (all will die, but eternally live)
 - The person inside doesn't die but gets free
 - It all ends VERY WELL
- These are the things that we can and should expect in this time and this place before Jesus returns

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. In your relationship with God, how do you most commonly view the hard/difficult things?
2. When have you seen God use difficulty to bring greatness in or through you?
3. What does it mean that God is always with you, that you will always have help? How does this play itself out in your daily life?
4. When was a time God gave you the grace to handle something hard to difficult right when you needed it? (Roc's analogy about Corrie ten Boom getting the ticket right before getting on the train)
5. When was a time when God gave you supernatural help?
6. How does the idea that the story ends really well impact your present reality? How should it affect your life today?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan - Mon: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Tues: Psalm 23 Wed: Ephesians 5:8-14 Thurs: John 9:1-41 Fri: Luke 22**

****5 Minutes Reading/5 Minutes Writing/5 Minutes Praying**