

Sunday, December 11, 2016

“When Worlds Collide”

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Key Passages: 1 Peter 1

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Now would also be a great time to allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday’s message

Main Ideas

- In 1 Peter 1 Suffering and Holiness are connected
- The question becomes, “How do we embrace the hard side of life?”
- We must embrace: Trials, grief, suffering, and mourning
 - We don’t always do this right in our culture
 - Sometimes it just hurts and we need someone to just be with us
 - It’s more than just “how are you doing?”
- Suffering IS... EXPECTED, PAINFUL, & REDEMPITIVE
- Suffering IS NOT... AVOIDABLE, NECESSARILY PERMANENT, ALWAYS NEGATIVE, SURPRISING to GOD
- We can’t choose **IF** we suffer only how we RESPOND
- In the 2nd half of 1 Peter 1 it transitions to talking about holiness
- We are called to be Holy like God is Holy, so we can represent him well
- Holiness IS NOT... HUMAN EFFORT, LISTS OF RULES, MANAGING SIN, IMPOSED
- Holiness IS... COMPLETELY BELONGING to HIM, FREE, FULL, FUN, HIS DREAM for YOU
- If someone asked “are you holy?”, your response would probably be “not as much as I should be”
 - You either are or you aren’t
 - Pregnancy analogy: you either are or you aren’t
- It is about a “divine partnership”
 - Giving God what is clearly his part/responsibility
 - Owning and living into what is our part/responsibility
 - Holiness does not happen through anything you have done
 - So that...we can love deep from the heart (God and one another)
 - Suffering - love - holiness - fulfillment

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

1. What is God prompting in you as you think about suffering and the hard side of life?
2. What has God done as a result of suffering in your life? How has he changed you or your view of Him?
3. What, if anything, is God doing in you as a result of suffering right now?
4. What does Holiness mean to you? What does it mean to pursue holiness? How do we become holy?
5. How would you say you are doing at completely belonging to God? How do you need to grow in this?
6. What are some things that are your part or responsibility that God is asking you to step into or step up to?
7. What are some things that are God’s part or responsibility that you need to give over to God?
8. What is God calling you to or inviting you into as a result of this passage and/or message?