

Group/Individual Study

Series: "This is Us" - Job

Passages: Job 2:11-13, John 11:21-35

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 8/13

1. Read Job 2:11-13. Why is it comforting in sorrow when people who love you simply come to be with you and share the sorrow?
2. When people have comforted you well - and in just the way you needed it, what did they do? What did they say? What did they refrain from doing or saying?
3. Often when people are in sorrow, they aren't helped when we give them easy or trite answers to the "why" questions. Other times they themselves are trying to wrestle with how their suffering relates to their faith, to God's character, or to His plans for their lives. In those times being a godly sounding board and partner in this wrestle can help. How can you let the person in grief determine the agenda when you are with them?
4. Read John 11:21-35. Jesus knew he had the power to raise Lazarus from the dead. In addition to that he knew for a fact of the reality of heaven that Lazarus would go to beyond this life. Why do you think - even knowing all these things - that "Jesus wept"?
5. Gary said that "good mourning" is a "mixture of tears and truth". How do you see Jesus ministering through tears in this passage? How do you see him ministering through truth?
6. Some people seem to easily move into situations of deep pain. The pain doesn't scare them and the ugliness of disease or dissipation doesn't push them away. Others have a harder time coming near "ground zero" of pain, disease, and death. How would you describe yourself in this regard? What are the best ways you've found to bless and love people who are grieving and/or suffering.