





COMMUNITY GUIDE

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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: God's plan of peace for you is to know that He is with you.

HEAD CHANGE: Jesus' promise of peace does not guarantee the absence of pain.

HEART CHANGE: The valley of suffering is the valley of soul-making.

LIFE CHANGE: I want to be so close to God that I want everything He has to offer.

OVERVIEW

A Promise of Peace and A Warning About Pain

We oftentimes ask ourselves, if God is so good why is there so much pain in this world. But the reality is, that Jesus' promise of peace does not guarantee the absence of trouble or pain. Rather we are called to understand that life offers both still waters and valleys of death (Psalm 23). And in that, holding on to the truth that God is the connection point within those two places. And valuing God's presence over provision, knowing that He is with us, that is what God is good at.

"He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me besides still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

- Psalm 23:2-4 (ESV)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. What are your thoughts on the question proposed in the sermon, "If God is good why is there pain in this world?"
3. Have you experienced times in your life when you have tried to break pain artificially (examples: Netflix, business, social media, relationships)
4. Moving forward, what does it look like to break pain naturally with God?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father, we cannot do any of this without You. Thank You for revealing the finished work of Jesus to us. May we live with a greater understanding of your grace and approval on our lives because of what Jesus has done. If there are any areas of our lives that are captured by pride, reveal that to me now. I repent and ask for your humility to walk with you and obey you in response to your love and grace toward me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!