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Finding answers to life's toughest questions

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I'm Feeling Lucky

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students see that God is still good even when bad things happen.

MAIN POINT

Just because there is evil in the world, it does not mean God is not good.

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Romans 5:12 + 2 Corinthians 5:19

THINK ABOUT THIS

Life can be FULL of big questions: like how is God good and there is suffering in the world? A healthy part of growing in their own faith is for our students to wrestle with these questions. If you've been a small group leader for more than a minute, you'll realize you don't have all the answers to the questions your students ask you and THAT IS GREAT! Don't feel that you have to be the expert or have all the answers because you are the leader. Why is it great that you don't have all the answers? Because that gives you a GREAT opportunity **to point your students to a GOD WHO HAS ALL THE ANSWERS, how we can seek answers in His words, and how we can live in the tension of some answers we'll never know this side of heaven.** Questions and curiosity can help your students truly own their faith and their relationship with Jesus.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Show of hands, who has ever gone through something hard and wondered why God would allow that to happen? (*Look around, if you've felt that way you aren't alone!*)
- Someone recap the main point of the message in your own words.

INTO THE WORD

READ Romans 5:12 + 2 Corinthians 5:19 and answer the following questions:

1. What happened for to bring sin and pain into the world?
2. Does God leave us/ the world alone in our sin and pain? How do you know?
3. Let's make a list together of good things God has done in your life that lets you know He is good. Let's get at least 10 things.
4. How can we say "God is good" when there is sin and pain in the world?
5. When we are going through a hard time, how can we turn to God for comfort or help?
6. When someone we know is going through a hard time, how can we show them God's love?

NEXT STEP

If a friend where to ask you, "How do you know God is good?" – what would you say? Talk about how you'd answer that together.

PRAYER GUIDE

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Scripture is provided for convenience, but we prefer you and your students open your Bibles to read the Scripture. This helps your students learn how to find Scripture in their Bibles and where these verses are in the larger context of God's Word.

Romans 5:12 NIV

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—"

2 Corinthians 5:19 NIV

"...that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

LEADER NOTES