

Review:

Lesson 1: Good and Evil

Lesson 2: Losing Everything

Curse God and Die

Job 2:1-10; 3, 11, 20-26

Understanding our suffering as a function of evil is far too easy, and not particularly helpful. On the other hand, understanding our suffering in light of an all-powerful God, is a

_____.

Discussion 1. Do you think we find it easier to attribute our suffering to “evil powers” than to God? If so, why do you think that is?

Sometimes our suffering is a hard or even harder on those who love us than it is on us. So we thank God that we are loved and we _____ when they don't handle the pain as well as they should.

Discussion 2. Can you describe a time in your life when you handled a loved one's pain poorly and perhaps said foolish things to them? What have you learned about sitting with someone who is grieving or in pain?

There is a good chance any of us will face struggles or even entire seasons in our lives when death itself would be an easier path forward than life. These are the moments when belief in a belief is not enough. We need an _____ with God.

Discussion 3. If you have ever walked with someone (or perhaps even you) who was seriously exploring death as an easier option than life, what role did faith play in that exploration? What difference does a personal relationship with Christ make in such a season of suffering?

The western mind poses questions only as steppingstones to clear, definitive answers. The eastern mind--and Scripture--on the other hand, often poses questions as places to simply _____ and _____...even if answers prove elusive.

Discussion 4. How comfortable are you living in the tension of unanswered questions? Do you think you are getting better at it with age or worse? Why? Think about the people on your Prayer/Care/Share list...why might it be dangerous to try and give easy answers to any of their hard questions about suffering?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?