



DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: Luke 13:1-5

The Weight of our Words: “God’s Got This”

GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

What is one way the words someone spoke to you during a time of difficulty, doubt or distress were hurtful? Another time they were helpful? What was the difference?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

In what way is a phrase like “God’s Got this” align with who we know God to be? Why can something be “True”, but also very unhelpful?

In what way does the cliché “God’s Got This” paint the wrong idea about God, and His plans?

In what way does saying “God’s got this” often help us feel better, but does not help the other person?

In what way are well meaning cliches, platitudes or words insufficient or actually harmful in helping us wrestle with what at times is painful, complex and complicated?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Luke 13:1-5]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

What did Jesus hear about a group of Galileans? (13:1)

What explanation for the tragedy did Jesus propose? (13:2)

How did Jesus reply to His own question? (13:3)

What was the story involving the tower of Siloam? (13:4)

What were Jesus’ listeners to learn from the two stories? (13:3-5)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

How did Jesus not settle in explaining the suffering people had endured by the typical cliché, religious answers of his day?

What assumptions did Jesus address in His response? (God’s Sovereignty, Plans, Purposes and Involvement)

In what way can cliches, platitudes, words come across judgmental even when we don’t mean them that way?

What Jesus’ response of unless you repent you too will perish mean?

READ JAMES 1:22-28

What is James prescription,(connecting our words with what we do), for what is helpful to others that are struggling?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about as a result of engaging with this passage?

How can we pray for each other?