



## WHAT A WEEKEND // Saturday *Small Group Questions*

### What do you do on Saturday?

On Sunday Pastor Mike talked about the three days of the Easter Weekend. Friday was a day of tremendous pain. Saturday, the next day was a day of grief, silence, of not knowing what would come next. Sunday hadn't come yet...and no one knew what would come yet.

As a group, start by reviewing some Scripture Mike used...

- **1Corinthians 15:3**
- **Matthew 27:46**
- **Matthew 26:56**

**Read again the Quote Mike used from CS Lewis' book "A Grief Observed" where he shares his experience with grief after the death of his wife.**

*"When you are happy, so happy you have no sense of needing God, so happy you are tempted to feel His claims upon you as an interruption, if you remember yourself and turn to Him with gratitude and praise, you will be—or so it feels—welcomed with open arms. But go to Him when your need is desperate, when all other help is vain, and what do you find? A door slammed in your face and a sound of bolting and double bolting on the inside. After that, silence. You may as well turn away. The longer you wait, the more emphatic the silence will become...What can this mean? Why is He so present a commander in our time of prosperity and so very absent a help in time of trouble?"*

### **Discussion:**

1. When a person is in a place of pain, grief, deep anxiety it is common to experience #1 or #2 or both below. Start by looking at these two points.

#### **#1. Have you experienced Despair?**

*(There is no hope. You think you just need to get used to this new reality because it is all you can see.)*

-If you have, can you talk about what it was like?

-If you are currently in a place of despair, it might be hard for you to talk about it, but if you are open to it — invite the group to walk with you in your despair by praying for you.

-If you haven't experienced despair, do you know someone who has struggled with despair?

How does a person exit a place of despair?

## **#2. Have you experienced being in a place of Denial:**

(You look for simplistic easy answers for Friday troubles, you ignore it or spin it, or gloss over it, and try to diminish the pain in this way)

-If you have, can you talk about what it was like?

-If you recognize that you are currently in a place of denial, are you open to inviting the group to pray for you ?

-If you haven't experienced denial, do you know someone who seems to be stuck in a place of denial?

How does a person exit a place of denial?

2. The third option when you are in a place of pain, grief, deep anxiety is to

## **#3 choose to Wait**

(Not just wait around, but wait on the Lord)

Mike said, "This is not passive - It means whatever I do while it's Saturday I do with God."

- What does that mean?
- What does that practically look like?
- And does it work?

3. As we wait what does it actually look like in real life — when you are in a “Saturday season” — to learn from God, rest with God, ask questions of God, complain to God?

4. Read this part of Psalm 42 together, each taking a line and then pray short prayers together for yourself and for others — especially for those who are in pain, grief, deep anxiety

***I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me?***

***Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”***

***My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?”***

***Why, my soul, are you downcast?***

***Why so disturbed within me?***

***Put your hope in God,***

***for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.***