



Why?

By Steve Sommerlot

Life Group Leader Notes

August 16 & 17, 2014

Quick Thoughts

Is it OK to ask God "Why?" How can I handle the silence of God when tragedy happens? Why does God allow bad things to happen to innocent people? These are all difficult questions to answer, because on the surface there seems to be no reason why a loving and all-powerful God would allow it to happen! Job's real life story is helpful in understanding this issue, though the final answer may be unsettling and unsatisfactory.

Scripture

Job 1:6-19

Job 2:1-9

Job 7:17-20

Job 1:20-21

Job 42:2-6

Links/Resources

Reaching for the Invisible God, by Phil Yancey

Knowledge of the Holy, by A.W. Tozer

Questions

1. What unjust events or horrible tragedies have caused you to question God; or maybe even felt angry with God?
2. In Job 1 and 2, what kind of man is Job described as? Why do you think God allowed Satan to do this to a guy like Job?
3. The four points for how to endure this question of "Why?" in our own lives are:

Remember God's faithfulness in your past

Worship God in your suffering

Don't expect that God must explain himself

Keep your eyes focused on eternity

Which point is the most difficult for you to grasp and deal with?

4. It was stated that when God tests us, he may be looking for the answer to this question: Will you honor me, no matter what? Does that seem fair that God would ask that of anyone?
5. How would you answer a friend of yours, who thinks that your God must be a moral monster, because he has the power to change all this - yet he allows all this suffering and pain in the world and feels that your God is unloving, unkind, and mean?