



Sermon Discussion Questions

Hope in a House of Blues: Part 3 of 4 Lamentations 3

Over the next two weeks we will continue to look at Blues and Hope and we will do this in our sermon discussion questions by walking through the book of Lamentations. This book of the Old Testament expresses all four "Keys of D" that we will address in the sermons: Dread, Despair, Doubt and Death.

If you haven't already, it would be good to read through the entire book of Lamentations to grab a bigger picture of what is going on.

INTRODUCE IT

As a group, list as many things (and debate one another as well) that you can think of that are absolutely true-things that are not in question. Examples: there is a sun, we have to have air to breath, etc...

Now, list as many things as you can think of that people have doubts about.

Which list is longer and why do you think that list is longer?

STUDY THE PASSAGE

Read Lamentations 3:1-20

Name all the things that the writer says that God has done to him.

After reading this passage, what would you guess that the writer questions about God? In other words, what is he doubting about God?

What are things that you have seen happen in this world or even to you that cause people to question and doubt God?

Read Lamentations 3:21-33

When you live in question or doubt about things, that is the time you have to turn to the things that you KNOW. In other words, let the things that you know help you find peace in the things you don't know. In looking at this passage, what does the writer KNOW?

Because the writer KNOWS these things and turns to these things, what does this give the writer? How do these words give you the same thing?

Share as a group about hardships that have happened in your life that could easily cause you to not have hope, yet because you turn to what is true of God, he has given you hope.

Read Lamentations 3:34-54

Why do we learn the writer is really in the condition that he is in? In what ways do we allow the consequences of our own acts cause us to doubt God's love?

What actions does the writer call all who sin to do instead of blaming God?

Read Lamentations 3:55-66

What did God do after the writer did what he described in verses 40-42?

How do the actions of God, when we repent, help us to stop doubting him but instead have hope?

USE IT

As a group, or tonight as an individual, practice verses 40-42. Be honest with the Lord by letting the honesty of Lamentations 3 guide you. Take seriously your sin and the affect it has on your relationship with God, with others and with yourself.