

THE WAIT OF GLORY - looking at the disciple's painful experience through Holy Week.

Palm Sunday's Celebration - Exciting!

Thursday's Betrayal - Confusing!

Friday's Killing - Tragic!

Saturday's Silence - Painful!

Easter Sunday Rising - Hope-full!

God had a plan the whole time, but they didn't get it the whole time

WHEN GOD IS SILENT...

Disciple's suffering in God's silence - The Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-21, That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

Thomas' suffering of God's silence

John 20:24-25, Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

David's suffering of God's silence

Psalms 13:1-2, How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Habakkuk's suffering of God's silence

Habakkuk 1:2, O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?

WHEN GOD IS SILENT... YOU CAN STILL TRUST HIM

The Road to Emmaus

Thomas' response...

John 20:26-29 Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

David's response...

Psalms 13:5-6, But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Habakkuk's response...

Habakkuk 3:17-18, Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

My response...

8 questions worth asking yourself when struggling with God's silence:

Do I know His voice and the different ways He speaks?

Am I holding on to sin?

Am I not doing what He told me to do last? (e.g., Jonah)

Am I in sin towards His kid(s)? (e.g., 1 Peter 3:7)

Am I asking God to do something He will not do (i.e., my part)?

Am I asking God to speak when He has already spoken (i.e., the Bible)?

Am I slowing down to actually listen?

Am I wanting only one answer - my answer?

Ways to wait in the silence:

Press in... and keep the conversation open with the Lord

Press in... to community for support (Galatians 6:2)

Press in... to being productive before the Lord

Press in... to God's character & ways



Sample Small Group Questions
<https://bit.ly/GroupDiscussionQuestions>



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