

TALK IT OVER

Doubting God **Week 2 - When You Feel Abandoned By God**

ICEBREAKER (Start talking)

How would you rate your pain tolerance on a scale of 1 to 10?

INTRODUCTION (Start thinking)

We all face pain and suffering in life. When the going gets tough, even the tough can doubt God. What do we do with those doubts? Let's take a look!

READ (Start sharing)

- Have you ever had a really, really bad day and said, "God, where are you? Why have you abandoned me?" Does it ever make you feel bad thinking that?
- Read *Matthew 27:45*.
- Jesus experienced pain and suffering and even Jesus questioned God the Father.
- How do you feel knowing that Jesus himself felt that way?

READ (Start sharing)

- Read *Matthew 28:20* and *Hebrews 13:5*.
- What has God promised to do for you?
- What would your life be like if you felt like God was with you all the time, even when he feels absent?

READ (Start sharing)

- When we face pain and suffering, we usually ask the "Why?" question. But the "What?" question is much more important.
- We need to ask, "WHAT do you want me to gain from this Lord?" Find a purpose behind your pain.
- When is a time that you found purpose in your pain?

WHAT WILL YOU DO (Start doing)

This week if you feel God has abandoned you, bring your bold questions through prayer and petition to Him.

PRAYER (Start praying)

Dear Father, thank You for understanding us like no other has. You are not afraid of our bold questions and doubts. Help us in our weaknesses and give us boldness in our prayers to find purpose behind our pain. In Jesus' name, amen.

READ GOD'S WORD DAILY using S.O.A.P.

Day 1:

This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. Hebrews 4:15 (NLT)

Day 2:

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18 (NIV)

Day 3:

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)

Day 4:

The LORD is the one who will go before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or abandon you. Do not be afraid or discouraged. Deuteronomy 31:8 (CSB)

Day 5:

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. Romans 5:3 (NLT)