

# UN-done: <sup>a</sup>When YOUR Life FALLS APART

## Scripture-based exploration:

### Job

Psalm 84:5-7. Understand that the Valley of Baca was a place of weeping, but it was along the pilgrimage road, the road to worship in Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 6:1-10. What do you learn about the here and now? From Paul's hardships and his attitude?

Luke 18:29,30 Sometimes we choose to be undone for the Kingdom. We choose loss for a different kind of gain. What do you think about this?

Philippians 2:5-11. Describe how Jesus was undone.

Gethsemane: Jesus was undone as He prayed. Read Luke 22:39-44, imagining yourself to be His best friend, praying with Him.

The Gospels: Jesus was undone for us at the cross. Choose a gospel account and read through the trials, denials, crucifixion, and burial of Jesus. Take to heart that He did this with a pure heart, sinless, with a right mind toward His persecutors and toward us, His future sisters. It was all love.

Hagar's story in Genesis 16 and 21:1-21. In what ways was she undone? How do you relate to her? How did God love her and her son?

## Non-Scripture readings

Blue Book chapter "Undone"

Read Isik Ablá's book about her life, "I Dreamed Freedom"

## Artwork for the creatives

Convey "Destruction" or "Resurrection from the Rubble"

## Movies

"Walk the Line" (Reese Witherspoon)

"Shadowlands" (The story of the relationship between CS Lewis and his friend & wife, Joy)

"The Duchess" (Kierra Knightley)

## Partnerships

Seek out a lovely sister to pray for this month; call someone and get together.

## Questions to ponder

It seems that God intentionally allows people of all situations to go through devastation. As a result, every person, at some time in their lives, becomes undone. Why does He allow this? What are His intentions toward us?

As you read the account of Job, how do you respond toward God? Toward Satan? Toward Job? Toward his wife? Toward his friends?

Read through the 70 questions God asks Job toward the end of the book. Sit in them, ponder them, wonder through them. How do these questions somehow meet people when they are undone? What questions settled you when you were undone?

Consider a time in your life when you were undone ... demolished ... devastated ... almost immobilized by life/death. Take time--make time--to walk through that experience again, experiencing it with the Lord at your shoulder. When did He feel far away? When was He so present you could feel Him? What would He ask you to do differently in your next "undone" time?

Being undone is related to maturity or immaturity. How has God matured you when you were in pieces?

Brainstorm all of the beauty you found in being undone. What were the gifts God gave you through being undone?

Respond to Jim Branch's poem:

**undone**

years and years of hard work  
diligently putting it all together  
piece by piece  
thinking all is well  
progress is being made

but then you  
come and scramble the whole picture  
leaving pieces scattered everywhere

you smile lovingly  
as I sit in the middle of the mess  
knowing that I don't know  
knowing that I'm undone  
and thinking to yourself  
*now that's progress*

God issues an invitation to greater intimacy to His children ... but sometimes Suffering is the postmaster. Will you view your current suffering as an invitation to greater intimacy with God? Will you draw near to Him, even as He is allowing you - even requiring you - to be **undone**? I encourage you to trust Him, even in the mess. He is faithful and He will see you through it. Don't run from the pain; press in. There is purpose to your experience of being **undone**. There are things God would like to teach you as He draws you closer to Himself through being **undone**. As you go through this difficult time, consider making a list of lessons you are learning, how you are changing, and what you are learning about God.

If there is a "glittering image," a mask, or a false self that you wear, God is very interested in destroying it. Often He will allow or cause us to fall apart in order for us to shed such ill-fitting garb. He desires that we should live honestly with one another and with Him. Have your times of being **undone** led you to live in greater honesty with yourself, with others, with God?