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MESSAGE APPLICATION Guide

Please feel free to pick and choose questions that relate best to you and your Life Group.

I Want to Believe, But... Week 4

Ice-Breaker – Which of the four message in this series do you most identify with? On-Demand God, Killjoy God, Goosebumps God, or Heartless God? Why?

Have you ever had someone ask you why God lets bad things happen? How did that go?

If you were God, what are a few reasons you wouldn't stop all pain? Or, would you?

While someone is in the middle of great pain, what could you tell them about God?

“God doesn't always cause the pain, but God can always use it.” Do you believe this statement? How have you seen this play out in your own life?

Have you ever asked God, “How could You let this happen to me?” What life events led you to ask this question? Have you been able to come up with an answer?

READ Psalm 103:8-14

What can we learn from this psalm about God's character? What can we learn about people?

In what specific ways should we imitate the Psalmist's attitude?

What does this passage teach us about ourselves?

How has God demonstrated His compassion to you? What blessings from the Lord have you enjoyed?

What can we learn from this Psalm about how to praise God?

Are there difficulties in your life that can you begin to view from this Scripture's perspective? How does that change things?

Take time to close by praying for God to reveal His presence in your pain. Ask for forgiveness for those times when you have doubted His goodness. Thank Him for always being there for us and for having a purpose in our pain.