

Where is God?

MESSAGE GOAL

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

▶ **MAIN IDEA**

I will see God’s hand in all circumstances.

▶ **HEAD CHANGE**

I will recognize that nothing is impossible with God.

▶ **HEART CHANGE**

I will focus on what really matters.

▶ **LIFE CHANGE**

I will choose a meaningful purpose to live for.

...When We Have Lost Our Joy

Read

Ephesians 2:13-22

Have you experienced real unity within diversity?

What are some of the obstacles Paul is currently facing? What is his attitude toward these things? What enables him to see things as he does?

List some characteristics of a mature Christian life (vs. 9-11).

List some factors and issues that keep Christians from standing together as one (vs. 15-18). How could this be improved among those in the church in general, and your church in particular?

What all do you think is meant by “to live is Christ and to die is gain?” Could you say that? Why or why not?

What would it take for you to become capable of not only accepting but rejoicing in suffering?

Why is it that sometimes God calls Christians to suffer? How does Christian community support us during our suffering?

In your Christian life, what are goals you strive for (vs. 19-26)? Discuss the importance of

OPEN QUESTIONS

What is a hard thing you’ve done before and afterwards were so glad you did?

Read

James 1:1-10

What part of this message do you feel that you really needed to hear? (Did you gain a specific insight into YOUR life? What challenged you?)

The goal of racial unity is not sameness, but oneness. What does that mean to you?

benchmarks and goals for growth in the
Christian life.
