

## STARTER QUESTIONS

1. How has your family traditionally celebrated Easter? What did you do this year?
2. What is the gospel? And how has society's heightened awareness of the reality of death increased your understanding or appreciation of the gospel?

### Good Friday: Psalm 22

#### **WHY: WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME (Psalm 22:1-2)**

1. Describe a time in your life where you felt forsaken by God. How did you "lament?" What did your prayers look like? Who did you blame for the situation?
2. What do you do to draw near to God when He feels far off?

#### **YET: YET YOU ARE HOLY (Psalm 22:3-4)**

1. Pastor Trent said "Lament is what we do when there is a gap between what we know and what we feel." What verses do you call to mind to help fill this gap and steer your soul to feel what you know is true?

#### **HELP: BUT YOU ARE LORD, DO NOT BE FAR OFF! O YOU MY HELP, COME QUICKLY TO MY AID. (Psalm 22:19)**

1. Pastor Trent also said "Every pain is designed by God to strip us of the illusion of control." Discuss what this means and whether or not you think it is loving or cruel.

#### **PRAISE: YOU WHO FEAR THE LORD, PRAISE HIM (Psalm 22:23)**

1. Take five minutes to write out your own lament. Use "Why. Yet. Help. Praise." as your outline. Then those who are comfortable can share what they wrote.

### Easter: Romans 5:3-11

#### **THE COLLISION OF SUFFERING AND HOPE (Romans 5:3-5)**

1. Describe a time in your life when God took something really hard and redeemed it for good. How did He help you endure the suffering? What kind of character and hope did He produce through the suffering?

**THE COLLISION OF SIN AND LOVE (Romans 5:6-8)**

1. What are the main differences between the gospel and every other man made religion?  
In what ways are you still tempted to try to earn or contribute to your salvation?

**THE COLLISION OF DEATH AND LIFE (Romans 5:9-10)**

1. What did Christ accomplish on the cross? And why is it essential to preach these truths to ourselves everyday?

**TAKE A STEP: Walk through Romans 5:3-11. Practice preaching the gospel to yourself and those around you. We are all preachers. The only question is what message are you preaching. So preach the gospel to yourself everyday. HE IS RISEN!**