

Series: Job

Preached @ ECCC by Grant Peers on 17th July, 2011

Scripture: Job 2&3

CELL GROUP DISCUSSION STARTERS

OPENING QUESTION

1. Do you feel trapped in the past, angry, or unable to relate to God because of a past calamity? (or was there a time when it was like that for you?)

CONTENT EXPLANATION (READ 2:11-18)

2. Have you ever avoided practising the 'ministry of presence'? If so, why? Are your reasons valid?

CONTENT APPLICATION

Depression (Read 3:1-10)

3. Do you think it is okay for a Christian to be depressed (not a clinical diagnosis)?
4. How long do you think a Christian can be burdened, distressed and unbalanced because of the *effects* of sin?
5. What can you NOT do in your burdened state?

Venting (Read 3:11-26)

6. Job was now living with the reality of his situation. Why should our prayers to God be honest?
7. But, how can we still sin in our honesty?
8. Discuss: we pray as we want to be even as we confess what we are (Mark Dever).

Reason: punishment?

9. What is the counsel that Job gets from his three friends?
10. How may it have been right (although it was not)?
11. How was it wrong?
12. Have you seen this kind of theology alive and kicking today? Why is it so dangerous?

TAKE-AWAY

13. Discuss the other reasons for suffering:
 - a. Unexpected good (e.g. Stephen, Jesus, Paul. Job himself)
 - b. Learning obedience through hardship (cf. Heb 5:8)
 - c. The simple effects of living in a fallen world