

Small Group Discussion

When Faith Wavers

Character Study: Job (Job 1; 4.7-8; 42.7-17)

Getting Started

- Do find the story of Job a difficult one to hear or read? Why do you think that is?
- What is your gut response in the face of unexpected pain or suffering?

Static Questions

- What was the passage about?
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - o Pay attention to the main *points* of the passage.
- What did you learn?
 - O What did the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - O Was there a promise or command or a warning?
 - O What is the big idea of the passage?
 - o What lessons do you see?
- How will you apply it?
 - o How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - o What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this message?
 - o How should you respond based on what you learned?

From the Teaching this Morning

- What lies did Job's friends advance about why he might be experiencing such intense suffering? Have you ever found yourself believing one of these lies either in regard to your own suffering or someone else's?
- How would you describe the character of Job's faith from the texts this morning? Is that encouraging, confusing, or something else all together as you look at your own faith?
- What answer does God ultimately provide to explain Job's suffering? Why is this significant for us today?

Application Questions

- What might be a tangible way you can grow in your relationship with God so that when suffering *does* come, your faith, although shaken, remains strong?
- Break out in pairs for prayer, but first ask this question: What unhealthy coping mechanism do you default to when things get hard? (e.g. Food, money, shopping, alcohol, withdrawal) Share with your prayer partner what your tendency is and ask for prayer and accountability.