

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Small Group Questions

Part 2: Barriers To Being A Good Neighbor

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Read

Isaiah 49:23; Acts 17:26; Psalm 89:9 and 119:49; and Philipians 4:6

Reflect

In Isaiah 49:23, God says those who put their hope in him will not be disappointed. We can accumulate a lot of stuff—whether material possessions or internal baggage from relationships. We may place a value on them that they do not deserve. When a storm hits, we are often forced to separate the crucial from the trivial. But how can we go about doing that?

Pastor Greg offers us three things storms can teach us:

1. Storms teach us to take personal inventory.
 - a. What do you tend to put your trust in? Possessions? Bank accounts? A job? An individual? The government?
 - b. How might you fill in... "If I could just _____, then, _____ would be fine"?
 - c. What practical steps could you take to lessen the hold of these things and surrender them to God?
 - d. How have these things disappointed you in the past?
2. Storms teach us to cry out to God.
 - a. When you experience a storm, what do you tend to do first?
 - b. Do you worry or do you pray? How good are you at telling God what you really need, and accepting that sometimes his answers require us to continue going through the storm?
 - c. What Bible verses jump out at you, speaking to your situation? Which of God's promises give you strength and comfort?
 - i. Think of ways God has come through for you in the past. Have you ever experienced a sense of peace that didn't make practical sense, while in the middle of a storm? How did the situation turn out?
3. Teach us to care about our neighbors.
 - a. Who do you turn to first in a storm? Family? Friends? Small groups? The Church?
 - b. Do you believe God placed you at this particular place and time for a reason...that he has a purpose? Explain.
 - c. Who can you reach out to help today?
 - i. God knows what you do best. How might you use your gifts and talents to help others?

Challenge

Start with assisting the eight families living around you. Check on them. See what they might need. Will you volunteer for God to use you?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?