

When Purpose Hides- Week 1

Life is shifting, disorienting, confusing. It's not what you expected. So what do we do when purpose hides?

Conversation Starter: Pick one of the questions below to get started-

- If you could choose to relive one day over again, what would it be and why?
- What is one thing you quit doing as a kid or teenager that you wish you would have stuck out? (*Hint: think through topics like playing a sport, learning an instrument, honors classes, etc.*)

Discussion Questions:

Question 1: We've all had a terrible, no good, very bad days. What was an annoying circumstance that happened to you this week?

- **Read Job 3:1-7**

Question 2: Nobody knew the desire to quit better than Job. His world went upside down in an instant. How might of you reacted if you were Job?

Question 3: Why do you think we lean towards autonomy over providence in our lives?

Question 4: David shared that even Jesus felt forsaken by God when He hung on the cross, Describe a time when you felt abandoned by God. How has that shaped how you interact with him today?

- **Read Job 42:12**

Question 5: What do you think happened to Job's circumstances that made him blessed at the end of his life? What might have happened in his heart to make him blessed?

Question 6: Like a master baker, God mixes all the circumstances of our lives, the good and the bad, to make something better than we could think or imagine. How have you seen God use your pain for your progress?

Question 7: Where are you on the U today?

Next Steps:

- **Don't give up:** Choose today to believe that whatever circumstance you are facing is not the end of your story. Take your next step to demonstrate that you're not giving up.
- **Commit it to memory:** In 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 Paul, a man who was no stranger to tough circumstances, reminds us that our troubles are light and momentary compared to eternity. Write out that verse this week and commit to memorizing it. When problems strike, it will help you keep perspective!

Prayer:

God thank you for being in control no matter the circumstances of our lives. Help us to trust you even when the bottom falls out. Please don't allow us to not settle for fixing our problems but transforming our lives as we fully follow you!