

Message: Mother's Day | Toby Slough | May 10, 2020

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

During worship we sang "Faithful you are, faithful forever you will be, all your promises are yes and Amen!" (Yes and Amen, Bethel Music & Housefires)

1. What is one way you have seen God's faithfulness over the past few weeks?
2. How do you remind yourself daily of God's never-ending faithfulness? Are there songs or verses that prompt you to remember?

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV) The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you but will rejoice over you with singing."

God is with you!

No matter what season of life or circumstances you find yourself in (yes! even during a worldwide pandemic), God is with you. Psalm 46:1 tells us "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Isaiah 41:10 reassures us "Do not fear, for I am with you". When Gideon was hiding from his enemies the angel declared "The Lord is with you".

1. God promises to be ever-present. Can you share a time when God's presence was so real and tangible to you?
2. Isaiah uses a present tense to state "God is with us". Not the past or the future but right now! How can we keep a constant awareness of God's presence with us?

God is fighting for you!

We sang about it during worship. "Hallelujah Great Defender! The Lord goes before us wins our battles even before we know there is a war. All I did was praise, all I did was worship, all I did was bow down, all I did was stay still."

(Defender, Rita Springer) Exodus 14:14 instructs us "The Lord will fight for you, and all you have to do is keep still." And Exodus 15:2 states "The Lord is my strong defender; he is the one who has saved me. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will sing about his greatness."

3. When we choose to defend ourselves we are stepping into a role that God says is His. When feeling attacked, how can we calm our natural instincts to defend ourselves and allow God to fulfill his role and promise?
4. How have you successfully reminded yourselves to "keep still" and allow God to fight for you?

God delights in you!

God delights in you despite your imperfections and in the midst of life's most difficult moments. It is not based on how worthy we are or how well we perform. God chose us. Knowing everything there ever is know about us, He chose you.

Psalm 18:19 TPT states "His love broke open the way and he brought me into a beautiful broad place. He rescued me—because his delight is in me!"

5. How would we live differently if we really understood how God delights in us?
6. How can we live free from the bondage of performance and just rest in God's perfect, unconditional love for us?