

MISSING



real hope when
life doesn't make sense

JENNIFER ROTHSCHILD

Viewer Guides with Answers.

Missing Pieces: Real Hope When Life Doesn't Make Sense

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Group Session 1

Video Notes

God does _____ listen _____, _____ hear _____, and _____ answer _____ our questions.

When we're _____ spiritually _____ disappointed _____ we wonder where God is.

God wants to fill the missing pieces with _____ Himself _____.

We don't want to just know _____ about _____ God. We want to _____ know _____ God.

Conversation Guide

1. Consider a "low point" that made you want to give up. What, if anything, prevented you from taking your hard questions to the Lord in that situation?
2. How might humbly presenting your questions to God illustrate your faith in Him?
3. Identify holes in your own blanket of faith. What about the analogy most resonates with you?

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Group Session

Video Notes

God's portion of manna was always perfect.

We're the broken man who needs God.

Conversation Guide

1. The Israelites only noticed they lacked meat when God provided manna. What perceived "lacks" tend to take your focus off of God's provision?
2. How might you demonstrate to God that He alone is your portion?
3. Share with the group specific manna (provisions) with which God has gifted you in recent months—even those that seemed more bitter than sweet.

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Group Session

Video Notes

God only gives us what is sufficient.

God does not give us what we deserve.

God is right in all His ways, yet it may not seem fair.

Conversation Guide

1. Share with the group a time when God did not answer a prayer in the manner you desired. How did He administer grace in that situation?
2. Explain the beauty behind the truth that God does not give us what we deserve. What does this tell you about God?
3. How can you combat the temptation to think that you should have every want met in just the way you desire?

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Group Session

Video Notes

God is present in our present.

Gideon did not personalize the presence of God.

"If" is not a statement of present. "Is" is a statement of present.

God is I Am, He is not I wish or
I think.

Conversation Guide

1. What things hinder you from living in the now?
2. Share about a time when you focused on the "if" rather than trusting the presence of God in your present.
3. How might you actively demonstrate to God that you are resting in the reality of His presence?

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Group Session

Video Notes

When we compare ourselves to each other, we can feel insignificant.

Consider yourself "in - significant."

God Himself stooped down to make you great (see Ps. 18:35).

When you hear your own name, you know that you are known.

Conversation Guide

1. Share with the group a time when you felt insignificant. What role did comparison play in that situation?
2. How does the knowledge that you are in-significant change the way you feel about yourself? About God?
3. How should you respond to the truth that you matter to God? That He knows and seeks you?

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Group Session

Video Notes

Different responses to unanswered prayer:

Angie Angry

Bonnie Bitter

Connie Compensator

Matilda Micromanager

Vicky Victim

When we pray, we:

acknowledge God's power.

appeal to His will.

Conversation Guide

1. How do you typically respond to unanswered prayer?
2. What's the difference between appealing to God's power and appealing to His will?
3. Consider a situation in which you've repeatedly asked the Lord for help or healing. How can you demonstrate to Him that you will trust His heart toward you in that instance—even if you can't see Him intervening?

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Group Session

Video Notes

Psalms 18:30, "His way is perfect."

Even when we make mistakes, God's plan cannot be thwarted.

God's plan for you is to rest in the sufficiency of what He has already accomplished.

Blessed is the woman who doesn't quit because she has missing pieces in her blanket of faith.

Conversation Guide

1. What's the difference between resisting God and resting in Him? How can you move from resistance to rest?
2. Without using names, share about a situation in which God turned the mess of someone's life into a masterpiece.
3. How will the assurance that God will use the missing pieces of your life as part of His perfect plan for you impact your faith journey?

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