

SMALL GROUP Q'S

The Downs and Ups of Following Jesus

March 27, 2016

Isaiah 53:10-12

- 1.) How have you experienced or thought about the “upside-down” nature of our world? Where are things in your life not at all the way you would hope or expect?
- 2.) Why is death vital for new life to come? What is the problem that can only be addressed by death, and how does Isaiah 53 describe Jesus addressing that problem?
- 3.) Jesus tells his followers that they are called to intentional self-denial and sacrifice as well as facing suffering and persecution. What part of that is most difficult for you to embrace in your own life?
- 4.) Will said followers of Jesus, the man of sorrows, ought to be people of tears. What did he mean, and what things can you think of that you should have tears over?
- 5.) In verses 10-12, every time death is mentioned there is hope for new life alongside it. Why is that so significant? What image does Isaiah use in verse 12 to describe Jesus, and what is he the victor over?
- 6.) What would it look like for Southwood to embrace more intentionally the reality that we are a “community of transgressors” whose only hope is in Jesus? How does the gospel free us (even our pastor!) to be honest about our failures without being hopeless?
- 7.) Will said followers of Jesus should also be people of hope and life, who see hope in the tears. Where or to whom has God given you opportunity to bring the hope and life of Jesus into brokenness, death, and hopelessness?
- 8.) Will shared two stories about the hope of new life in the face of death, and both highlighted that hope is only there when Jesus himself is everything. What are things/people/ideas in your life that you feel you couldn't have true life without? What does Jesus have to say about our hearts in this regard?
- 9.) What is your favorite Easter song that we sang during the Easter service? Why is it meaningful to you?



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