

If God Is Good

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Why is there _____?

_____ involves the possibility of suffering.

Pain has a _____.

Suffering is not _____.

Why did He create _____?

Satan and demons were created as _____.

Satan and demons do not share God's _____.

Satan _____, not _____.

What about those who _____?

God's moral law has been _____.

We are judged by _____.

Those who cannot understand are _____.

Free will means God must _____.

God will judge _____, _____, and _____.



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Discussion Questions

Name It

1. What is one common explanation for suffering you hear in our culture (inside or outside the church)?
2. What is one thing that stuck out to you from the sermon?

Know It

1. Do you have anything in the sermon that felt unclear to you?
2. Read Romans 8:18–23. What word or words stand out to you? Why?
3. Read Romans 8:31–39. The sermon explained that Satan and demons are NOT all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-present. How does understanding that Satan and demons are created, limited beings- not God's equal- change how you think about evil and responsibility?
4. Read Genesis 18:25, Romans 1:18–20 and 2:14–16. How do you, or have you, wrestled with God's wrath and judgment?

Think It

1. The Bible and sermon explain that God is good, sovereign, just, and merciful. Which of these attributes is hardest to trust in seasons of suffering? Why?
2. When people ask hard questions about God and suffering, which emotion do you feel most—curiosity, tension, compassion, defensiveness, hope, or something else?
3. C.S. Lewis summarizes the dilemma: "If God is good and all-powerful, why isn't the world happy?" Why do you think this question is so compelling for believers and skeptics alike?

Change It

1. What would be different in your life to practice trusting God in suffering, limitation, and unequal opportunity and believe that *nothing* separates us from God's love?
2. Additional resources: *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis and/or if you're dealing with grief, Troy and Rachel Guthrie both found *Hearing Jesus Speak into Your Pain* by Nancy Guthrie to be helpful.