



“The Shack” Blockbuster Series

July 22 - 23, 2017

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. (Romans 8:35,37 NLT)

1. **WHEN YOU FOCUS ON YOUR PAIN, YOU LOSE SIGHT OF PAPA.**

“How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart?” — (Psalm 13:1–2)

2. **“GOD’S CHARACTER CAN BE TRUSTED.”**

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. (Psalm 34:8)

3. **RELEASE OUR NEED TO UNDERSTAND, AND REST IN GOD’S CHARACTER.**

“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever experienced a “Great Sadness” or known someone who has? Describe what that was like (or maybe is like right now).
2. What kind of negative speculation is often projected on God during “The Great Sadness?” Why do you think that is?
3. In times of darkness we need to cling to what we know about God and not to speculate about what we don’t know. What do you know about God? Do you have Bible verses to back that up?
4. Consider these verses. What do they help us know about God that might encourage us in times of Great Sadness?
 - a. Lamentations 3:25
 - b. Psalm 86:5
 - c. Ephesians 3:17-19

Notes and recordings of these messages can be found on:

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