

HINDSIGHT

WHAT IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW?

Despite great wisdom and vision, often the clearest sight is when we look back on our lives and learn from experience. Hindsight can teach us what we need to know about the future. We do not look back in a spirit of regret or condemnation, but with a spirit of wisdom and hope.

IN GOOD TIMES AND IN BAD

Good times don't last...and neither do bad times.

One of the many things that life teaches us is that life is always changing. To grow is to change. There are times that are good and there are times that are bad. All of us go through good times and bad times and neither of them are permanent. In both good times and bad, Jesus is Lord and He loves the person in a desperate situation and the person in a bright situation.

GOD IN REAL LIFE

This week, spend time with the Person who is more powerful than death and remember: You are not alone. God has not forgotten you. The story is not over. Just keep reading.

TO THE HEART

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He tells the number of the stars; He calls each by name." Psalm 147:3-4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing you miss from before the pandemic that you are hoping to be able to do again?
2. The pendulum swung quickly for both the British and Job from the good times to the bad times. What do you think was the hardest part for you mentally/spiritually in handling the pendulum swing from pre-COVID times to COVID times?
3. Good times don't last...but neither do the bad times. We have the power to *choose* to be helpless and hopeless or to *choose* to be helpful and hopeful. What do you think can get in the way of choosing to be helpful and hopeful? How can you challenge those thoughts/obstacles to become more helpful and hopeful?
4. We can be afraid, but we can still move. We can be in desperate times, but we can still help. We can be in dark times, and we can still hope. Now as you're walking through 2021, in what areas of your life do you still feel afraid, desperate, or hopeless? What practical steps can you take to "just keep swimming" through those areas?
5. In today's Gospel, when those anonymous people who didn't matter to Peter came to Jesus, Peter saw something in Jesus' eyes: They *mattered* to Jesus. How do you make time throughout your day/week to give Jesus the chance to tell you that you matter to Him?