

## Message Notes 3-13/14-10



# My God, why?

1. Valleys aren't \_\_\_\_\_

2. Valleys aren't \_\_\_\_\_

3. Valleys aren't \_\_\_\_\_

4. Valleys aren't \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 27:46b** (NIV) “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

**Psalm 22:1** (NIV) *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?*

**Psalm 22:7-8** (NIV) *All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: “He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”*

**Psalm 22:16-17** (NIV) *Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet.<sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.<sup>18</sup> They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.*

**Isaiah 48:10** (TM) *Do you see what I've done? I've refined you, but not without fire. I've tested you like silver in the furnace of affliction.*

1. Pain \_\_\_\_\_ us

**Luke 15:21**(NIV) *The son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”*

2. Pain \_\_\_\_\_ us

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4** (NIV) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,<sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.*

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9** (NIV) *We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair;<sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.*

3. Pain \_\_\_\_\_ us

**Ecclesiastes 7:2, 4** (TM) *You learn more at a funeral than at a feast—After all, that's where we'll end up. We might discover something from it. ...Sages invest themselves in hurt and grieving. Fools waste their lives in fun and games.*

4. Pain \_\_\_\_\_ us

**Hebrews 5:7-10** (TM) *While he lived on earth, anticipating death, Jesus cried out in pain and wept in sorrow as he offered up priestly prayers to God. Because he honored God, God answered him.<sup>8</sup> Though he was God's Son, he learned trusting-obedience by what he suffered, just as we do.<sup>9</sup> Then, having arrived at the full stature of his maturity and having been announced by God as high priest in the order of Melchizedek,<sup>10</sup> he became the source of eternal salvation to all who believingly obey him.*

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\*This message, in audio or video, will be available at [www.connect2ccc.org](http://www.connect2ccc.org)

# LifeGroup Study

## **Stepping In: Getting things started!**

1. Share something that stood out to you in the message this past weekend.
2. What is one good thing that came out of a painful experience in your life?

## **Building Up: What is God Saying?**

1. Read **Psalm 23**
2. Pick the one verse that speaks most clearly to you today and write it out below: (share with the group which verse you chose.)
3. (**Psalm 23:1**) If God is with me I'll lack nothing I need. Why do I feel like I'm "lacking" so much of the time?

4. (**Psalm 23:2-3**) What do these verses teach us about how specifically God looks to meet our needs? Give some examples of specific ways God has come to your rescue.
5. (**Psalm 23:4**) In moments when death seems close, what can we be assured of? And...what can we learn?
6. (**Psalm 23:5-6**) No matter how far away God feels, what do we KNOW based on these verses? What do I need to do in the midst of difficult circumstances?

## **Living Out – How do I obey?**

1. What are some ways you have considered reacting differently to the painful experiences in your life?
2. How can we, as a LifeGroup, respond better to the needs of others in our group?