

SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **January 19, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "Then Whose life is it?" Please read the sermon passage (Job 14:1-17) together out loud.

Small Group Questions (Job 14:1-17)

Sermon Outline:

1. **We need to recognize and explain the authority God possesses** (vv 1-6)
 - a. God owns life: both its duration and its quality.
 - b. Suffering exists to teach us to trust God alone.
 - i. Some suffering teaches us to trust God (Proverbs 3:11)
 - ii. Some suffering teaches us about suffering in someone else's place (Isaiah 53)
 - iii. Some suffering teaches us to have compassion through empathy (2 Corinthians)
 - iv. Some suffering teaches us that our faith can be trusted (Job)
2. **We need to recognize and explain the hope that God provides** (vv 7-12)
 - a. Christ-followers are made for heaven. The resurrection is our great hope!
3. **We need to recognize and explain the life that God values** (vv 13-17)
 - a. Let your thinking be led by truth, and let the emotions follow.
 - b. The Resurrection reveals how much God values life (including life AFTER death)
 - c. Creation reveals how much God values of life (including life BEFORE birth)

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Review the things suffering can teach us if we have a willing heart (above). How has God used suffering to teach you important lessons in each of those areas?
2. Why is it important that we learn that God decides BOTH the "number" of our days," and the "quality" of our days? How would you counsel someone who was lamenting life because of suffering?
3. How has great personal suffering made you long for resurrection and heaven?
4. In what ways are you allowing your emotions (how you feel about life) shape the way you look at life? In what ways have you allowed truth to shape your emotions (how you feel about life)?
5. The crux of this message is that no matter how we suffer, God has complete authority over life and death. How can you enter a discussion with a co-worker and win him/her to "recognize and explain" that God has complete authority over life and death?