



Week #2: What Matters to God

Martha said, "Master, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't have died. Even now, I know that whatever you ask God he will give you."

Jesus said, "Your brother will be raised up."

Martha replied, "I know that he will be raised up in the resurrection at the end of time."

"You don't have to wait for the End. I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives believing in me does not ultimately die at all. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Master. All along I have believed that you are the Messiah, the Son of God who comes into the world."

After saying this, she went to her sister Mary and whispered in her ear, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you."

The moment she heard that, she jumped up and ran out to him. Jesus had not yet entered the town but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When her sympathizing Jewish friends saw Mary run off, they followed her, thinking she was on her way to the tomb to weep there. Mary came to where Jesus was waiting and fell at his feet, saying, "Master, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her sobbing and the Jews with her sobbing, a deep anger welled up within him. He said, "Where did you put him?"

"Master, come and see," they said. Now Jesus wept. The Jews said,

"Look how deeply he loved him."

John 11:21-36 (MSG)

Tools to help those who are hurting:

1. If it matters to _____, it matters to _____.
2. Don't _____ what they are going through. See through _____.
3. Pray for them _____.
4. Create a _____ for others to _____.

Tools for when you are grieving:

1. If it matters to _____, it matters to _____.

Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let’s not let it slip through our fingers. We don’t have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He’s been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let’s walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help.

Hebrews 4:15-16 (MSG)

2. Tell God what _____ going through. See through _____ lens.

*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.”*

Isaiah 43:1 (NIV)

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,

2 Corinthians 1:10 (NIV)

*He led me to a place of safety;
he rescued me because he delights in me.*

Psalms 18:19 (NLT)

3. Pray on these things _____.

Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing-prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet. And if you’ve sinned, you’ll be forgiven—healed inside and out. Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

James 5:13-16 (MSG)

4. _____ with someone who is a _____.

...I announce today that I will restore to you twice as much as what was taken. For My people will be My weapons...

Zachariah 9:12-13 (VOICE)

Discussion Questions

1. Who is someone that might be hurting in this season, that you could be present with and see their season through their lens?
2. What is something you want to bring to God, and share with someone else, to begin to experience healing and wholeness?

Recommended Resources

- *Unpacking*, Dr. Anita Phillips Sermon, YouTube.
- *Moving Through the Impact of Trauma*, Lysa TerKeurst Podcast, Therapy and Theology, Season 1, Episode 11.
- *Divine Disruption: Holding on to Faith When Life Breaks Your Heart*, by Tony Evans, et al.
- *A Grief Observed*, by C.S. Lewis.

MSG (The Message)

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Tools to help those who are hurting:

1. If it matters to THEM, it matters to GOD.
2. Don't TELL THEM what they are going through. See through THEIR LENS.
3. Pray for them SPECIFICALLY.
4. Create a SAFE SPACE for others to SHARE.

Tools for when you are grieving:

1. If it matters to YOU, it matters to GOD.

Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let’s not let it slip through our fingers. We don’t have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He’s been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let’s walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help.

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