

Defining Moments

Week 1 | Andrew Kim

BOTTOM LINE

Our Pain can become a Platform Through God's Presence and Provision!

GOAL OF THE GROUP

For this series our goal is to look at a number of defining moments and see how God used them in the lives of people to transform them, love them, encourage them and turn pain into a platform. Today, we are discussing Andrew Kim's defining moment around the loss of his dad.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 1:8-11, 2 Corinthians 12:7-9a, 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 - In the book of 2 Corinthians, where Paul is the writer, we read about how he experienced a defining moment in his life. It was a moment where Paul learned to trust God in the midst of a difficult circumstances.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Share:** When was a time that you had to struggle through something difficult to experience something significant in the end? (studying extra on a test, putting extra hours in at work for a project, asking your future wife on multiple dates before she said yes)
2. Is there a defining moment in your life where you faced difficult or heartbreak times and asked the question "why"? If so, how did that situation shape you and your relationship with God?
3. **Read & Discuss:**
 - a. Read: 2 Corinthians 1:8-11. (Read the summary at the top to give some context)
 - b. What do you notice about how Paul described his situation?
 - c. What do you notice about how God brings redemption and purpose in the midst of pain?
 - d. How is Paul's pain a platform for us learning how to "TRUST GOD" in the middle of difficult moments, even if we aren't taken out of them?
4. **Discuss:**
 - a. If God asked you this question: "You have to choose who to put your trust in for the rest of your life and you have 2 choices, you or me, who would you choose?" You know you; you know your hang-ups, weaknesses, and insecurities.
 - b. What makes it difficult to trust God in moments of difficulty?
 - c. When was a time that you did trust God (even if you were doubtful) and his way turned out better? What did you learn at that moment?
 - d. Look at 2 Corinthians 1:9 - How is God teaching Paul about how the way God rescues us doesn't just mean being taken out of a situation but sometimes walking WITH us THROUGH the situation?
 - e. Do you notice how Paul references the help that he felt from the prayers of friends in 2 Corinthians 1:11? What does he say about their prayers?
 - f. How would our lives be different if we TRUSTED God in the midst of our pain, SOUGHT Him for direction and followed Him as we PRAYED for help instead of just trying to get through it ourselves? How would our perspective shift? And what would we need to let go of to do that?

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TRY THIS

1. *Pray for each other this week. Write down the prayer requests and put them in a bowl and have everyone pray for one other person in the group.*
2. *Choose 1 step to take towards Trusting God in the midst of a difficult situation today!*