



When Life Hurts – Be Assured – Message 1

Announcements

- **Men's Night** // Tuesday, March 14th // Guest speaker Denny Duron and LSU Head Coach Orgeron. Invite your pals and buddies. Doors open at 6pm and event starts at 7pm. ChurchoftheKing.com/mn.
- **Women's Night** // Tuesday, March 28th // Guest speaker Lisa Harper will join us for our theme: *Beloved*. Doors open at 6:30pm and event starts at 7pm. Childcare is available. ChurchoftheKing.com/wn.

Warm-up

Do you like the cold weather or do you look forward to summer?

We all have a bad day or season where nothing seems to be going right. But for every difficulty we face, we can be confident that God will give us a framework to process and react from His perspective. We need only to seek Him. During this new six-part message series, we explore how Jesus dealt with His darkest moments and learn how his example can help us persevere and trust God in difficult times.

Word and Application

Did you know that God invites you to approach Him for help in your time of need in order for you to gain understanding, assurance, direction, and companionship during dark times? Jesus gives us the how, when, where, and way of salvation and then reminds us throughout scripture to focus on your eternal destiny to get through the rough seasons.

Read Hebrews 12:1-2

Why do you think this passage is in the Bible?

Read Luke 23:39-43

Describe the different perspectives of the two criminals.

According to Hebrews 12:1-2 and Luke 23:39-43, what is the impact of realigning your focus impact the dynamics of rough seasons?

The day Jesus was hung on the cross he was in the middle of two criminals and each one had a different response. One blasphemes Jesus and the other looks to Jesus in the midst of his pain. These are the **Four Things The Dying Man Knew**

1. He knew he would face God after death.

Read Luke 23:40, Hebrews 9:27

You were created to live forever. Your choice to believe in and surrender to Jesus will determine whether you live with God or separated from God forever. At what point did you realize that the choices you make here would have an impact on you for eternity?

2. He knew he had sinned against God.

Read Luke 23:41, Romans 10:9-10, James 2:10, Romans 6:23

The truth is no one is perfect. We don't measure up to God's standard of perfection. How is knowing that everyone falls short of God's standards of perfection good news?

3. He knew Jesus was more than a man.

Read Luke 23:41, 2 Corinthians 5:21

Every person on this planet has sinned. We live on a broken planet and we are all imperfect, but Jesus was not like us in that aspect. What does 2 Corinthians 5:21 mean to you?

How has God used your imperfections from your past as a testimony to encourage others to glorify God?

4. He knew only grace could save him.

Read Luke 23:42

When we get to a point where we know we cannot save ourselves, we usher in the grace of God that saves us all. In our rough seasons, how does knowing that grace alone saves, encourages you?

Jesus is there for us giving us the security of our eternal home in Him. What key point in this message most resonates with you? How can you apply it to your life this week?

Prayer

Thank God for all He accomplished through Jesus for our redemption, and pray for the nudging of the Holy Spirit to remind you of your eternal position in Christ in the rough times we encounter while on earth. Pray for specific needs in your group.