Learning to forgive.

Definition: Disappointed

- · Disappointment happens when our experience of something doesn't meet our expectations.
- If you have been disappointed with God, you are not <u>alone</u>.
 Ruth 1:20-21
- God can handle our <u>honest emotions</u>.

8 Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. Psalms 62:8 (NIV)

These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock. Matthew 7:24-25 (MSG)

The strength of our <u>foundation</u> determines the strength we have in <u>life</u>.

When God is your foundation:

• Jesus is **first** in our lives.

20 Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, <u>Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone</u>.. Ephesians 2:20 (ESV)

• We trust God's character over our emotions.

15 The LORD is just! He is my rock! There is no evil in him! Psalms 92:15 (NLT)

5 ... God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.1 John 1:5 (NLT)

13 ...And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." <u>God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else</u>. James 1:13 (NLT)

5 For the LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation. Psalm 100:5 (NLT)

We believe God's word over our circumstances.

46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. Luke 6:46-48 (NIV)

Our <u>hope</u> is not tied to this world.

10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. Hebrews 11:10 (ESV)

• Without a strong foundation, our disappointments with God tend to <u>erode</u> our understanding of God.

13 All these people died having faith. They didn't receive the things that God had promised them, but they saw these things coming in the distant future and rejoiced. They acknowledged that they were living as strangers with no permanent home on earth. Hebrews 11:13 (GWT)

• Expectation and disappointment walk hand in hand.

Disappointment can come:

...From our <u>vague</u> understanding of <u>God</u>.

Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. 1 Corinthians 13:12(NLT)

We don't always understand:

God's ways.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV)

God's <u>timing</u>.

Don't overlook the obvious here, friends. <u>With God, one day is as good as a thousand years, a thousand years</u> <u>as a day</u>. 2 Peter 3:8 (MSG)

But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day! Habakkuk 2:3(TLB)

God's provisions.

John 6:26-35 (TLB)

For the Scriptures tell us that no one who believes in Christ will ever be disappointed. Romans 10:11 (TLB)

...We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. Romans 5:1-5 (NLT)

TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE In a growing relationship with Jesus.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Why is releasing our disappointments with God so important? Have you known someone that has walked away from God due to being disappointed with God?
- · If you feel comfortable, share about a time when you have been disappointed with God.
- · Are you able to share your honest emotions with God?
- Talk about what it means for God to be the foundation of our life. How does that foundation give our lives strength? How does our foundation protect us in our disappointments? Would you say that your foundation is strong? explain.
- Do you find that expectation and disappointment walk hand in hand? What does that mean to you?
- What does it mean that we don't always understand God's ways? How does that create disappointment?
- · How does God's timing differ from our timing? Have you ever been disappointed with God's timing?
- Read Romans 10:11, What does that scripture mean to you?
- · How would you help someone going through disappointment with God?



<u>Other Notes:</u>

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WELCOME

Our Series:



Today's Talk.. **"Forgiving God"**

Get connected! Try out a Connection Group.





Information available in the courtyard.