



Here Comes Trouble - Week 3 Doubt - Discussion & Reflection Guide

Questions and Prompts:

- **What is one thing you know for certain?**
- **What stood out to you from Sunday's service?** How did you sense God at work in you through the songs and the message? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- Eddie shared, "Psalm 73 is written by a person who knows God is good, but who has to admit, 'I cannot reconcile my faith with the injustice I see in the world.' Have you ever been there?" **How did you respond to God?**
- Take some time to slowly **read Psalm 73**. Have someone read it out loud if you're in a group. Consider reading it several times or in several translations.
 - What do you notice? What surprises you? What encourages you?
 - Is there a word or phrase from this psalm that reflects what you want to say to God today?
 - Take some time to talk to God in your own words.
- **Read James 4:8-10.** What are some of the action steps listed here? **Is there one that you need to take today?**
- Eddie shared, "it is more dangerous to deny our doubt than to express it." **Consider writing your own psalm like Asaph did.** Express your honest questions and emotions to God, and express your sincere prayer and faith to him, as well.
- **Is there anything else from the message you want to explore more deeply this week?**

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Dealing with Difficulties and Disappointments -
<https://www.wschurch.org/seriesresources>

Life is full of challenges and disappointments but hope and healing are possible. We have collected staff selected resources for our *Here Comes Trouble* teaching series to help you learn and grow—even in difficult circumstances. You'll find our digital resource, *Dealing with Difficulties and Disappointments*, which offers some simple, practical steps, using the link above. There's also a way you can reach out to talk to someone for care and support. Be sure to check back each week for new resources to go along with each message.

Message Main Points & Scripture:

- **The author of Psalm 73 (Asaph) is a music director in the temple.**
- **The Bible does not portray doubt as all bad or all good.**
- Psalm 73:1-2 – “Truly God is good to Israel, to those whose hearts are pure. But as for me, I almost lost my footing. My feet were slipping, and I was almost gone.”
- **“I cannot reconcile my faith with the injustice I see in the world.”**
- **It is more dangerous to deny our doubt than to express it.**
- Psalm 73:3-5 – “For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness. They seem to live such painless lives; their bodies are so healthy and strong. They don't have troubles like other people; they're not plagued with problems like everyone else.”
- Psalm 73:12 – “Look at these wicked people— enjoying a life of ease while their riches multiply.”
- Psalm 73:13 – “Did I keep my heart pure for nothing? Did I keep myself innocent for no reason? I get nothing but trouble all day long; every morning brings me pain.”
- Psalm 73:17 – “Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood the destiny of the wicked. Truly, you put them on a slippery path and send them sliding over the cliff to destruction.”
- **Our doubts are best resolved by experience, not by information.**
- James 4:8-10 (NIV) – “Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”
- Psalm 73:3 – “For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness.”
- **When God strengthens your faith, you won't be proud of it.**
- **Every doubt can be a conduit to a bigger view of God.**
- Jude 22 – “Be merciful to those who doubt.”
- Psalm 73:21 – “Then I realized that my heart was bitter, and I was all torn up inside. I was so foolish and ignorant – I must have seemed like a senseless animal to you. Yet I still belong to you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny. Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever.”
- **Even if you've doubted him, you still have God. And he still has you.**