

PAIN – LIFE Group Study Guide

God is good, evil is opposed to God

Pastor Miles McPherson, Sept 11, 2016

This week, Pastor Miles began a new series on pain. He pointed out many have turned away from God because of something that happened which caused pain or hurt and they blamed God for letting it happen. In Genesis 1:31, God created everything and it was good. There was no sin in the world until the serpent - more cunning than any beast, tempted Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit so they could be like God. God is good and evil is anything opposed to God.

1. Opening Discussion:

Have everyone share: As a consumer, have you ever been fooled ('taken' or ripped off) by a slick or dishonest salesperson? Or, have you ever bought something for a really low price only to have it break right away?

Leader Note: *After everyone has shared, note how many different ways we have been deceived. Look at how many more ways the devil can lead us away from God.*

Over time, what have you learned to spot the bad deals and how have you become a more careful consumer?

Have we as Christians become more aware of the lies, tricks and deceptions of the devil over time? Why or why not?

Pastor Miles said that just going to church does NOT assure anyone of going to heaven. Why do we go to church then?

2. Going Deeper:

READ Gen 1:24-31. Think back to a time when you thought God was either bad/evil or doing something bad or evil. How does this passage affect that thinking or feeling?

Why is it at times easier to believe other people and not God or His Word?



Lucifer was the angel worship leader in heaven until pride made him want to be like God which led to his downfall. When you have your moments in the 'spotlight' or center of attention, what do you do to stay humble?

4. GROUP ACTIVITY:

Divide into 2 groups. Have one person in each group be the note taker.

1st, have group A list why they should pay taxes to the government.

Look for any Biblical references using smart phones.

2nd, at the same time, have group B list reasons why we should tithe.

Again, they can use smart phones to find bible references.

Have the note takers summarize the group findings.

Are we more likely to pay all of our taxes or fully tithe? Why?

Leader asks: Are we more obedient to the government or God?

If your group is large, suggest breaking up in smaller groups of 2 or 3 for these questions:

First, pray silently for the Holy Spirit to lead you to share with the other one or 2 persons:

What is your burden or pain? How can they pray for you?

Pastor Miles started the message by encouraging us not to keep it to ourselves. What lie(s) is the devil tempting you to believe?

4. Take it Home:

How can we take our hearts of stone and make it a heart for God?

