

# WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT?

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY | PASTOR ELY REYNOLDS | SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

#2 = IF GOD IS GOOD, WHY IS THERE \_\_\_\_\_?

1 Peter 3:15

- If someone is going through a tragedy and asks you this question, it would probably be best to say something like this: "That is a great question and I'd love to talk with you about it. However, I don't know that you really want a deep Bible study right now. Let's talk about it later. But for right now, how can I help you get through this tough time that you are dealing with?"
- "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you \_\_\_\_\_."

## TRUTHS TO HELP

1. God told us there would be \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.

- a. John 16:33; 1 Peter 5:10; Romans 8:18
- b. This view of pain, suffering, and evil doesn't discredit the Christian faith. = In fact, it proves Jesus' words to be true. = He told us exactly what type of world we would live in!
- c. I'm glad He didn't just sugarcoat the truth! I'm also glad that He has overcome this world!

2. God did not create \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. **Isaiah 25:7** = If God is the Author of evil, how could we be blamed, right? Is He good?
- b. *Evil* = "\_\_\_\_\_"; an event resulting in great loss and misfortune"
- c. God did not create evil, but He did create human beings with the freedom to \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. The ability to love always demands the ability to not love.
- e. Real love cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ or coerced. Love is impossible without freedom.
- f. When talking with someone, focus on the choices that we have. (Believe or not believe = Love or don't love = Heaven or Hell)
- g. God did not create evil, but He did create us as free beings with the \_\_\_\_\_ for evil.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ are the cause of most suffering.

- a. **Romans 3:10-12** = Sin is the source of evil and suffering.
- b. "Why doesn't God just stop them?" The question to ask is this: "Which \_\_\_\_\_ do you think God should take away from us right now?"
- c. If God were to stop all evil from happening in this world, it would mean taking away all of our human freedom and stopping all of us, because we are all sinners.

- Why is there suffering? Because there is sin.
- Why is there sin? Because God created us with the free will to obey or not.
- Why give us the choice? Because there is no love without the choice to love.
- Whatever people may ask, just make sure to be genuine and \_\_\_\_\_ for them.