




## Answer the King: *Why Suffering?*

### Discussion Questions

**Date:** November 3, 2019 | **Scripture:** Luke 13:1-5

1. Read Luke 13:1-5. What stands out to you?
2. Suffering is a reality for all of us. As you have wrestled with the problem of suffering, what questions have come to the surface? Which moments (death of a loved one, natural disaster, etc.) have caused you to wrestle with this topic? What feelings have you experienced?
3. In verse 2, we see that one of the prominent ways of thinking about suffering in Jesus' day was that suffering was a consequence of sinful living (a similar belief like karma). Have you ever viewed suffering in this way? Do you know someone who does? How is this line of thinking not helpful or liberating for us?
4. Jesus not only confronts the crowd's view of suffering, but he also adds a word of warning to the observers (v. 5). What does Jesus mean when he commanded the observers to repent? How does having a repentant heart change our perspective towards suffering?
5. The gospel does not minimize suffering; it reorients our minds and hearts toward God. How has Jesus met you in your suffering? What was that experience like, and what did you take away from it?
6. One way we know that God is not indifferent to our suffering is through the incarnation, when God became man in Jesus Christ. What can Jesus' experience with suffering—in his life, death, and resurrection—teach us today? How can we encourage one another through life's pains and difficulties this week?



Jesus does not  
minimize your  
suffering, but  
enters into it with  
you to provide  
meaning and  
power by his Spirit.