

## Sermon Based Small Group Questions

*"Into Your Hands" April 5, 2020*



### Opening Questions

1. Share a story that lifted your spirits during this time of challenge?
2. What helps you face the fear and anxiety?

### Going Deeper Questions

1. Review all of the last words. Which one resonates with you most right now? Why?
2. Read Luke 23:44-46. What strikes you about today's passage?
3. Jesus went from 'My God, why have you forsaken me' to '**Father** into your hands I commit my spirit'? What bridged these two phrases? How does that bring us comfort?
4. Jesus words are an act of surrender to the will of the Father. How well do you surrender your will? (refer to Luke 9:23-24 and Galatians 2:20 for insight)
5. Read Psalm 31:5 and 15 and John 19:10-11. How do these passages make you feel/think? In quoting Psalm 31, what word does Jesus add?
  - a. In what ways are we like Pilate?
  - b. In whose hands are you?
6. Read Hebrews 4:16. What is the bases of our confidence?

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7. *"The agonizing moments through which I have passed during the last few years have also drawn me closer to God. More than ever before I am convinced of the reality of a personal God. True, I have always believed in the personality of God. But in the past the idea of a personal God was little more than a metaphysical category that I found theologically and philosophically satisfying. Now it is a living reality that has been validated in the experiences of everyday life. God has been profoundly real to me in recent years. In the midst of lonely days, and dreary nights I have heard an inner voice saying, 'Lo, I will be with you.' When the chains of fear and the manacles of frustration have all but stymied my efforts, I have felt the power of God transforming the fatigue of despair into the buoyancy of hope. I am convinced that the universe is under the control of a loving purpose, and that in the struggle for righteousness man has cosmic companionship."* -Martin Luther King Jr.-

Can you relate to this quote? How? How does the cross assure you that "the universe is under control of a loving purpose"?

8. Sid mentioned Count Zinzendorf changing his rebellious life after observing a painting depicting Christ and his suffering. And he was moved by the caption below the painting that said, "All this I did for thee. What hast thou done for me?" In light of the crucifixion story and Jesus 7 words how would you answer the question?

### Close in Prayer

#### **Luke 23:44-46**

<sup>44</sup>It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup>for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup>Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

#### **Psalms 31:5, 15**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commit my spirit; for you have redeemed me, LORD God of truth. <sup>15</sup>My times are in your hands. Deliver me from the hands of my enemies and from those who pursue me.

#### **John 10:10-11**

<sup>10</sup>So Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to speak to me? You realize, don't you, that I have the authority to release you and the authority to crucify you?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, "You have no authority over me at all, except what was given to you from above. That's why the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

#### **Hebrews 4:16**

<sup>16</sup>So let us keep on coming boldly to the throne of grace, so that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.