

PART ONE

Shadowlands

LIVING IN THE LAND OF LAMENT

Turning to God in the
Midst of Turnmoil

Loss leads to grief.

In grief, we can find grace.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

We experience grace in loss when we turn to and trust in God.

Loss leads us to turn to or turn away from God.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

God is good! God is always good! God is never less than good!

³All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. ⁴He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. ⁵For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. ⁶Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. ⁷We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

MY NOTES:

³All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, ⁴and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. ⁵And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. ⁶So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. ⁸You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:3-9

MY NOTES:

"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

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TALK IT OVER:

- What stood out to you from today's teaching?
- How would you summarize the teaching in a sentence or two?
- What did you learn about Jesus in this teaching?
- What did you learn about people/humanity in this teaching?
- What is God asking you to do, be, embrace, change and/or believe from this teaching?