hey Hlexa BIG QUESTIONS...SMART ANSWERS

Hey Alexa

Week 4 | What did I do to deserve this? | Pastor Steve Robinson

Big Idea

We all walk through seasons of storms, moments of great loss, and times when the answer is just not clear. Where do you turn when you don't understand what's going on?

Let's Talk

1. **Control** - We love control. It's human nature to want to control situations and outcomes. However, when painful situations arise it quickly becomes clear that we are not in control. When you recognize that you've lost control, where do you turn? Do you take on the yoke of Jesus? Or, are you trying to fight for control by doing things your own way?

How precious are your thoughts concerning me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. Psalm 139:17

2. **Dare to hope -** Even when things don't go our way, we can still "dare to hope" when we remember the faithful love of God. Hope seems hard to find when the rug feels like it has been pulled out from us, but God's faithful and strong hand can still be found holding us, even through the worst storms and trials. Read John 16:33 and discuss how you can "take heart" and trust God.

"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

Reflect & Respond

Life is hard. We all experience pain and suffering at times. Even Jesus experienced pain during his time on earth. While we are not immune from pain, we do have a choice in our response. We can see storms as insurmountable or as an opportunity to trust God. How will you choose? Take some time to pray for one another (share any requests aloud if you're comfortable with this), asking God to bring strength and peace as we trust in His plans.