



SESSION FIVE:



Sad Thing, Glad Thing

STUDENT HANDOUT

Key Verses

Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

John 20:6–8

QUESTIONS ABOUT SAD THING, GLAD THING:

What are a few other biblical instances where God took a sad thing and made it into a glad thing? For every example you think of, answer the following questions:

- a. What was the sad thing?
- b. What glad thing did it become?
- c. What made it turn into a glad thing? (ideas: God's miracle, the person's surrender, the person's obedience, the person's change of heart)

Example:

Everyone on earth was so rebellious, God had to flood the whole earth, which was a sad thing. But the glad thing is that he saved Noah and his family and the animals because Noah obeyed God and built an ark.

QUESTIONS ABOUT SAD THING, BAD THING:

What examples in the Bible can you think of where a sad thing turned into a bad thing? For every example you think of, answer the following questions:

- a. What was the sad thing?
- b. What bad thing did it become?
- c. What made it turn into a bad thing? (ideas: disobedience, rebellion, ignoring God)

Example:

Judas, one of the disciples, took money to betray Jesus—a very sad thing. It became a bad thing when he led the soldiers to Jesus and had him arrested. Judas did this because he was angry with Jesus for not trying to take over the army and defeat the Romans, so he rebelled against God’s plan.

QUESTIONS ABOUT EVERYTHING WORKING FOR GOOD:

1. After thinking about these biblical examples about sad things turning to either glad things or bad things, what conclusions can you draw for your own life?

2. When we have sad things happen in our lives, this is one of the most comforting verses:

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28 (NLT)

Do this simple exercise. Think about a sad thing in your life. It could be something you are going through right now or something that happened to you in the past. Think of an object that might symbolize that sad thing. Here are some ideas:

- Crutches from a sports injury
- Report card
- Detention slip
- Speeding ticket
- Hospital ID bracelet
- Tryouts results list, without your name on it

Now take turns reading Romans 8:28 out loud, but replace the word everything with the symbol of your sad thing. If you want, you can shift all the words so this verse is about you personally.

Example:

I know that God causes my hospital ID bracelet to work together for my good; I love God and I am called according to his purpose for me.

EASTER/LENT FOCUS:

We are challenging all our students to join with the rest of the church and read *He Chose You* in the weeks leading up to Easter. This week's readings will help us understand how God can turn tragedy into triumph. Please read the closing chapters 13–15 in *He Chose You*.