

## Small Group Questions

May 19, 2024

### He Said What? "Wisdom for Bad Times and Good"

This series will look at some of the difficult statements made by Jesus. Some of those statements are hard to understand, some are hard to receive, and some are both. Each week, one statement will be unpacked to clarify the meaning and make the application to our day. None of these statements offers us any easy or surface answer. Each of the statements provides a challenge to our faith and/or our practice.

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. What recent tragedy has caught your attention the most? Why?
2. What do you make of the statement: "What comes around, goes around?"

(Questions based on the primary texts)

Read Luke 13:1-9.

1. What idea about the two tragedies is Jesus rejecting?
2. How does Jesus apply the stories in a new, different way?
3. Why do people often assume that suffering is due to something they've done or because they are uniquely bad?
4. What can we do to keep from judging people by their circumstances?
5. What did Jesus mean in v.3, "But unless you repent, you too will all perish?"
6. Why does Jesus tell the parable of the fig tree – what is the connection between the tragedies and the tree?
7. What does this passage teach us about concepts like karma and "what you put out into the universe comes back to you"?
8. How can you show acceptance to one or two people who have been falsely judged as unrighteous for their circumstances?
9. What step or repentance would communicate to God your gratitude for His grace and second chances?