

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DOWN BUT NOT OUT

1. Reflecting on the sermon's focus on the irreplaceable role of mothers, can you share a story about how a mother figure has profoundly shaped your life? (Proverbs 31:25-29)
2. In the sermon, the speaker discusses facing the struggles of life with honesty and transparency. Why is it important to be transparent about our challenges, and how can this help us and others in our community? (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)
3. The sermon touched on Psalm 42 and the deep yearning for God during times of despair. How can we, like the Psalmist, actively place our hope in God when we feel downcast or abandoned? (Psalm 42:5)
4. The concept of lament was explored in the sermon as a powerful expression of our emotions to God. How can practicing lament lead us to peace, purpose, and promise, according to the Psalms? (Psalm 34:18)
5. Discuss how God being our shelter and sustainer in times of despair, as mentioned in the sermon, resonates with your own experiences. Can you share a time when you felt God's closeness during a challenging period? (Psalm 55:22)
6. The sermon emphasized the importance of patience and waiting for God's response to our 'whys'. How can we cultivate patience in our spiritual lives while waiting for God's timing and answers? (Psalm 27:13-14)
7. Scars were highlighted in the sermon as stories of learning and divine companionship rather than marks of failure. How can embracing our scars as part of our journey with God encourage us and others in the faith community? (Isaiah 53:5)
8. In light of the sermon's message on God's meticulous work in our lives, how can we recognize and celebrate the ways God is transforming our trials into triumphs? (Romans 8:28)
9. Considering the sermon's message of hope and healing with God, how can we support one another in the faith community to find hope and healing through God's promises? (Zephaniah 3:19)
10. How can the sermon's encouragement to be honest, humble, and hopeful in our prayers change the way we approach God with our deepest feelings and needs? (Hebrews 4:16)