



Discussion Questions: Katherine Wolf // 'Purpose in Pain'

Message Discussion:

Katherine Wolf led our House this past Sunday to gain a kingdom-perspective when it comes to suffering and pain. She is the living proof of God's ability to form hurt into an impactful platform as she now shares how God has used her stroke to teach herself and the people around her this lesson about how even a wheelchair can be an avenue to freedom.

Discussion Questions:

1. It is easy to hear from a person like Katherine and begin to think there is nothing "wrong" with your life but she challenges this thought. Katherine talks about the reality of 'internal', 'invisible' wheelchairs. It could be you have an actual wheelchair but what are you dealing with or have you dealt with that may qualify as an invisible or visible wheelchair?
2. When you are little, what is 'good' is limited to what you *feel* is good in a moment. As you grow older, you begin to realize just how complex 'goodness' is. Over the years, how have you grown in your understanding as to what is 'good'?
3. Do you have a story, whether lighthearted or intense, of the goodness of God despite seemingly bad circumstances?
4. Katherine talks about living the "GOODHARD" life. She says putting God first means embracing the fact that we have this kind of life ahead of us. What does it look like to be simultaneously an optimist and a realist in this life?
5. Katherine shares about the importance of sharing how difficult things are – something she didn't grasp until Priscilla Shirer challenged her to communicate. Why do you think Priscilla called Katherine to go into more detail regarding her difficulties?

6. Katherine challenges people to “fake it to make it” when it comes to “getting one’s own soul back on board.” What does Katherine mean by “getting bossy with your soul”?

7. Katherine directs our House to a paradigm-shifting perspective; that our lives are good, because God can make all stories ‘good’. This is hard to grasp because it takes so long to understand the complexity of ‘goodness’. How close are you to thinking this way?

8. Discuss these points together:

“Expect more of God and less of this world.”

“Steward whatever is in your story.”

“Cultivate ridiculous gratitude for what remains.”

“You can control how you think about what’s happened to you.”

“Recognize you are on assignment - a ‘lot’ has been given.”

“Take responsibility and get creative.”

“There is flourishing within constraints.”

9. Katherine challenges our House to “Be curious what on earth God is doing through our story.” Can you exercise this creativity now and dream up what God might be doing through something difficult? Can anyone in the group testify to this?

10. Katherine shares an interesting line, “Let people suffer in the moment before you tell them God can work all things for good.” What is she getting at in saying this? Can anyone share about how space and freedom to mourn are important?