

A HARD ROAD

Faithfulness in all areas of life *from the book of Hosea*

Week 3

Key Scripture

Hosea 2:8-13

Open

1. What was the most memorable punishment you had growing up?
2. Have you ever had an experience like John where you felt punished for something but it turned out to be for your own good?
3. How do we know the difference between abusive pain and pain that helps us be better people?

Dig

1. As a group read Proverbs 3:11-12. As a group rewrite these verses in your own words on a piece of paper or a board with a marker so everyone can see it.
2. Read Hosea 2:8-13. So is the Bible saying that God purposefully can bring harm into someone's life for a greater good? Is that fair?
3. How do we tell the difference between pain that we bring about from our poor decisions and the pain that God brings into our lives to make us stronger?

Take Further

1. If you were the God of the universe, do you think that you would use pain or difficulty to help get the attention of people here on earth? Why or why not?
2. Is there an area of your life right now in which you are going through difficulty or pain?
3. Is it possible that God is using that pain or difficulty as a shaping tool in your life? How?

Prayer

Write down the responses that the group had to whether you are struggling with something painful right now in life and pray specifically that we can learn from these painful moments in life.