

w/b 1st September 2019

THEME: BIG ISSUES - WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING? LIFE APPLICATION

PASSAGE: GENESIS 3

LAUNCH

What bad thing has happened to you recently? In what way did you think God could have been more helpful? (try to keep the example fairly light)

Who do we tend to blame for the problems in our lives and the world around us?

If someone asked you “why do we live in such a messed up world?” what would your response be?

DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

Read Genesis 3:1-6

What are the key stages in the fall of mankind as you see them from this passage?

From your reading of this scripture, do you think God created sin? Why or why not?

‘God creates free will (which is very good) but this includes the option to reject God and as a consequence engage in sin and bring suffering into the world’.

Do you agree with this statement?

For God the importance of free will seems to be so important to him that he is willing to allow for sin and suffering as a result. Why do you think this is?

Read Genesis 3:16-24 What are God’s negative consequences of Adam and Eve’s disobedience?

Why is it important not to speculate that a natural disaster is God’s judgement on a particular group of people?

APPLICATION

Pray for anyone that you know at the moment who is experiencing suffering through illness or circumstance.

Pray that Jubilee church will increasingly be a place of deliverance from sin and suffering

*Most questions sourced from: Why does God allow suffering and evil? By John Ankerberg & Dillon Burroughs – AMG publishers. Significantly amended.*