



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Worship | Community | Mission

“Three things God does before His people go through hard times”

Isaiah 43:1-3

Warm Up Question:

Name the biggest challenge and opportunity the quarantine has brought you.

- Can you think of a time when someone reassured you of something really important?
- How does seeing God’s reassurance of His love and care for His people help us currently?
- Can you think of a time when having someone with you really helped you face something difficult?
- How does the promise of God’s immediate help give us hope currently?
- Why is it hard to believe God is with us?
- How does spending time in His word help us know He is with us?
- Why is it so important that God identifies Himself as our Savior?
- How does His doing so help us believe He’s working things for our good, even when it doesn’t seem like it in the moment?
- How does God’s promise to work all things for our good (Rom. 8:28) motivate us to press on with faith?

Sermon Points:

1. He gives important reassurance (vs. 1)

- *When things get difficult, it’s easy to wonder whether or not God has abandoned us. Therefore, he reassures us, and his word, of his constant love and care, so we can trust him when times are tough.*

2. He promises immediate help (vs. 2)

- *God promises to be with us when we go through difficult situations, or seasons.*

3. He offers invaluable motivation (vs. 3a)

- *The Lord God, the holy one of Israel, our Savior, identifies himself as our Savior so that we know that, no matter what is happening to us, it is always part of our salvation; therefore, everything is working for our good.*

Heidelberg Catechism

Question 1. What is thy only comfort in life and death?

Answer. That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who, with his precious blood, hath fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that, without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; **yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation:** and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready henceforth to live unto him.