

**Instructions:**

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



**Series: The Voice**

What is the will of God? Why do bad things happen to good people? How can I face the future? Does prayer really work? Asking questions and having doubts is a normal part of the human experience. We do not have to be ashamed of our doubts or hide our questions before God. In fact, God fully welcomes them and welcomes us. It is even possible that we are closer to God when we are asking questions than when we think we have all the answers.

This Lent, join us as we bring some of our biggest questions and doubts to God. We will practice embracing this deeply human part of ourselves of asking, wondering, and wrestling in the mystery of faith as we move together toward the great and joyous hope of the Easter resurrection.

**Key Scripture**

*1 Corinthians 13:8-12; Romans 8:26-28*

**Questions based on this week's teaching:**

1. What does 1 Corinthians 13 mean to you when it says right now "we see in a mirror dimly"?
2. Jewish scholar Abraham Heschel once said, "We are closer to God when we are asking questions than when we think we have the answers." Has this been true for you? Why or why not?
3. What hurtful things have been said to you in a moment of suffering?
4. What questions do you still have on the sovereignty of God?
5. What comfort can you find in the mystery that is the problem of evil?

For more on Romans 8, listen in to podcast episode with Kate Bowler and New Testament scholar, N.T. Wright on "the Mystery of God": <https://katebowler.com/podcasts/the-mystery-of-god/>

For further discussion on Romans 8, consider this guide by Kate Bowler:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bFdviCa361FeM3TMrUQuWmB0\\_9--fWdT/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bFdviCa361FeM3TMrUQuWmB0_9--fWdT/view)

**Please be intentional about praying together!**

**Consider joining us as a house group for one of our Thursday nights of prayer and worship throughout Lent.**



*Starting February 1 at 7pm, the pastoral team will meet in the lower level at MUMC (enter building A their main sanctuary building) for an intentional time of prayer and worship as we seek God's presence and guidance in this season.*

*Let us not underestimate the power of our community coming together in an hour of need to pray!*

**Close in prayer:**

Pray together. Create intentional time and space to offer prayers for one another, that we might share in the comfort of Christ together and experience the Spirit's presence.

**Consider the simple acronym of ACTS to guide your time of prayer together:**

- A- Adoration.** *Share praise reports or reasons to praise God. (Reading a psalm together can help)*
- C- Confession.** *Leave space to pray silently or individually to confess sins.*
- T- Thanksgiving.** *Share something in the group that you are thankful for this week.*
- S- Supplication, or petition.** *Share concerns and prayer requests you have.*