



Relationship Myths: God | March 20, 2019

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

What if the belief, that with God on your side nothing bad can happen, is actually a myth that's destroying your relationship? If you want to hear more about this, read more below.

Key Verses

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV)

"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Discussion

In the movie, *The Blues Brothers*, two brothers go on a mission to save the orphanage that they grew up in. The most famous line in the movie is, "Don't worry, they're not going to catch us, because we're on a mission from God." Like the movie, often times in our lives and in our relationships, we believe that nothing bad can happen to us with God on our side. And when we believe that inside of our marriages, things begin to fracture when we are faced with challenges.

1. Why do you think we are tempted to believe that with God on our side nothing bad can happen?
2. Have you experienced disappointment because you believed this myth and then experienced difficulty in life, or seen someone else go through the same?

Sometimes we fall victim to believing that with God on our side, we won't have to experience pain. We think we will always have the job we want, or the amount of money we desire as long as we keep God in the picture. But the reality is, that's a myth. And if we believe that, we set ourselves up to be disappointed when things don't go our way or we experience hardship, both in our faith journeys as well as our relationships. God is part of our relationships. He should be at the center of our marriages. But the reality is, we have to work to keep Him at the center, even and especially when things get tough.

3. If you are married, would you say that God is at the center of your relationship? Why or why not? If not, would you say that God is at the center of your life and faith journey? Why or why not?
4. Why is it important when things get tough to actively keep God at the center of our lives and relationships?

In Ecclesiastes 4:12, we read a metaphor for what our relationships look like with God at the center. A cord, when braided, is stronger than individual strands on their own. But braids, like life, don't stay put forever. They come undone when we encounter tough circumstances. They are tested and pulled when the person we married no longer treats us like they used to. Unless we are active about keeping our braid together, with God at the center, it will fracture.

5. How has your "braid" been tested and pulled, or even destroyed?
6. What are some ways you can actively keep God at the center of your marriage or faith journey?

What's Next?

Believe it or not, the stats show that Christian marriages actually have a higher divorce rate than others. And it's often because people within Christian marriages believe the myth that with God on their side, nothing bad can happen. So when it doesn't go right, many call it quits. In order to save marriages, we need to shift our perspective to understand that God is present and working even when things get tough.

This week, as you live out your faith, examine some of the places that you believe that with God on your side, nothing bad can happen. Make one conscious decision to root some of that belief out; to reconfigure your life and relationships with God at the center.