



DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING
finding clarity in the chaos

STUDY GUIDE

THE POINT: The Gospel reminds us that, even in the chaos, I am secure in Christ, no matter what.

In this series, we are exploring the God-given opportunities of the COVID-19 pandemic and the racial strife which dominates the news. These events are changing our lives, but they also push us to a particular question—what really matters to us?

This week we look at how tough times can mess up our perspective on God. It is very easy in tough times to blame God for it all, especially if we blow it. It is not who He is or what He does. God is off the blame list. There is another name you should consider—yours! Remember in the tough times that every good thing we have ever been given comes from God. If you want some clarity in the chaos take an inventory of all the good things God has already given you. At the top of the list is the good news, the Gospel of Jesus. At some point in your life, you heard the Gospel that God stepped in and rescued you through Jesus. And because of the Gospel, your soul can be well even when your life isn't. The Gospel reminds us that even in the chaos, our soul is secure. I am secure in Christ no matter what. It is well with my soul!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read and discuss **James 1:13-18**. It is easy to make excuses and blame others—even God—for our mistakes and wrong actions; our sin. What excuse have you made and who have you blamed? How can we resist the temptation to blame others?
2. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
3. Reality check: James reminds us that every good thing we have ever been given comes from God. Find clarity in the chaos by taking an inventory of all the good things God has already given you. Sit at the table with a sheet of paper and make a list.
4. What was the number one thing on your list? Where did the Gospel rank?
5. Because of the Gospel, you are secure in Christ even in chaos. How have you experienced this security?
6. The hymn "It Is Well With My Soul" reminds us that in the middle of pain, when your life's a wreck, your soul can still be at peace. How have you experienced this peace?

ACTION STEPS

- God did not expect you to experience life, or a pandemic, alone. Since we are not yet ready to meet in large gatherings, we encourage you to gather in two ways:
 - **HOUSE CHURCH**- approximately ten people who gather in a home to watch and discuss the worship service, socialize, invite new people, and make plans to serve in our community.
 - **HUDDLE**- four people of the same gender who commit to meeting together weekly for a year to discover and deepen their relationship with Jesus and each other.
- What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?
- Read the **Didn't See That Coming Daily Devotional** on our website.