Devotion Info
The Problem of Pain

DAY 1 Read Romans 6:23; I Peter 3:18; Romans 5:8

Romans 6:23 NLT
For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Peter 3:18 NLT
Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

Romans 5:8 NLT
But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

- What do these tell you about God's justice and love?

TRUTH #1: God is both just & loving.

KEY POINT: God demonstrates His love for those who can believe, by offering them salvation through faith in Jesus... but how will God demonstrate His love for those who don't have the intellectual maturity to comprehend and respond to the gospel message?

DAY 2 Read John 3:36

And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment."

- Who are those who experience God's wrath according to this passage?

TRUTH #2: The atonement (payment for sin) is unlimited and babies have not yet rejected the Son.

KEY POINT: Those who don't have the mental capacity to reject the Son aren't guilty of that sin.

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DAY 3 Read Matthew 18:1-6; 2 Samuel 12:22-23

Matthew 18:1-6 NLT

[1] About that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" [2] Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. [3] Then he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. [4] So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. [5] "And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me. [6] But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea.

2 Samuel 12:22-23 NLT

[22] David replied, "I fasted and wept while the child was alive, for I said, 'Perhaps the Lord will be gracious to me and let the child live.' [23] But why should I fast when he is dead? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him one day, but he cannot return to me."

- **WHAT ABOUT... Babies who die young?**

Once his infant child passed away, David stopped his grieving and clearly communicated that he was confident he would go to be with his infant son one day.

TRUTH #3: The Bible teaches that little children will be in heaven… Based on their faith.

- Do you think it's possible that God has a relationship with all human beings before ever-increasing selfishness, pride and doubt begin to squeeze Him out of their lives?

DAY 4 Read Luke 18:17

I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

- **WHAT ABOUT... The mentally handicapped?**

KEY POINT: Pastor Bryan made the point that the same principles that apply to children who die before they are intellectually mature enough to exercise faith in the gospel apply to the mentally handicapped as well.

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DAY 5 Read Romans 1:19-20; Hebrews 11:6

Romans 1:19-20 NLT
[19] They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. [20] For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Hebrews 11:6 NLT
And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

- **WHAT ABOUT... The heathen in foreign lands?**

KEY POINT: Pastor Bryan said: If someone really seeks the truth about God – even in the remotest parts of the earth - God will lead them to the gospel truth. God might use a friend, a gospel tract, a Bible, a missionary, a miracle, an angel, a vision, He might even meet them in a deathbed experience... but God will lead them to the truth.

- God finds a way to reach lost people all over the globe. How are you doing personally in reaching your lost neighbors, friends, co-workers and family members for Christ?

If you would like a daily reminder of these devotionals for each week's sermon, text "DEVO" to 512-877-5131 and you'll receive a text message after 8am Monday-Friday with a link to that day's devotional.