

Mythbusters 3

Heartless God

Welcome to Family Church Today... Happy Fathers Day... All the Dads in the house.

We will be closing out our series today on MythBusters.

The main idea of this series is that I whole heartedly believe that people are NOT rejecting the TRUE and living God... They are rejecting a distorted view of God.

I Want to Believe But ... If you're just joining us, what we've been talking about is the really big issue that there are so many people today that want to believe in God but there's some type of a hurdle, some type of an obstacle.

Week 1 we spoke about On-Demand God... He needs to do what I want when I want... Not exactly..

Week 2 we discussed goosebump God... How can I believe when I don't feel...?

This week we are going to talk about Hard-Hearted God... Now you may be used to me being funny and cracking jokes and today I may come across a little bit more serious or emotional...

I feel differently about this topic today... so lets jump in.

Here's the big idea today... Now bear with me... Let me fully explain myself before you get upset and want to walk out... Lets truly learn something today..

Today I want to talk about what may be the most commonly embraced distorted view of God and that's what I call heartless God.

I want to believe in God but he doesn't seem to care.

Here's the big Idea... **Does God even Care?**

Ready.... NO!

Let me explain...

God does not care if the mets win a single game this year. God does not care what car you buy. God does not care how many kids you have.

I think we have made all these rules for what we think are important to God. Here are the rules he gave mankind... ready

Gen 1:28

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Rule the earth... Go at it... Have fun... Enjoy Life...

I'll be right here with you...

Are you telling me Pastor Mike that God doesn't care about ME???

I didn't say that... I'm saying God doesn't care about all the things that we might think He cares about...

He doesn't care about your hair style.... even though in Luke 12 its says that he Knows the number of hairs on your head....

God cares about you... He loves you... Do you have Joy, Peace, patience, goodness, kindness....

Remember when viewing the things of God we must see them through the lenses of **free will**.

My Daughter Makayla loves gymnastics... I don't care if Makayla wants to do gymnastics or play softball... whether she wants to run track or be in the school musical...

I care about Makayla... I love Makayla.... So whatever she chooses... I will support her and make a way for her to enjoy it.

Why is God allowing me to have diabetes... As you clean the chocolate frosting out the corner of your mouth..

God can NOT take the sugar out of the donut you CHOOSE to eat.

Why is God hard hearted... why won't He stop all the bad things happening in the world...?

Because someone else's FREE WILL is to choose to do those bad things...

Well that doesn't seem fair. "This isn't fair God"

Where are you, God?

This doesn't seem fair.

I found a really unfair story in the Bible...

If you're not a church person, you may not know the history of John the baptist, but this guy is the cousin of Jesus and he recognizes he has a very important purpose and his purpose is to prepare the way for Jesus.

That's his purpose. This is what he's going to do. He devotes his life to saying, "Jesus is coming, everybody. Get ready. Repent of your sins. Be baptized. Jesus is coming."

People start to follow him. "Don't follow me. Follow Jesus." He's humble. He says, "I'm unworthy to untie his shoes. I can't even do ... He's the one."

Then John the baptist gets arrested for doing the right thing.

He's in prison and you know what he's thinking. "I'm the cousin of Jesus. I've been serving Jesus. I've seen his power. He's healed the sick. He's raised the dead. He's opened blind eyes. He's done party tricks. He turned water into wine, a party trick. He's going to so come and ..." You know, he's fantasized about it.

....

He waits. "Jesus, are you coming?" He waits. This is what he did at one point. He asked one of the other guys, "Hey, go find Jesus," he's in prison, "and ask him, 'Are you really the one that we were expecting or should we look for someone else?'"

What happened? God, Jesus, you can and you're not. Do you even care?

If you've ever been at the place where you wanted to believe but it didn't seem like God cared, you're not the only one.

In the next 25 minutes or so, let me make you two promises.

Number one, I will not be able to answer every question that you have.

I can not do it, but I will point you to the one who one day will do just that. One day, he will.

What I want to do is show you two big thoughts, things to embrace, truths to remember whenever God doesn't seem fair.

When God doesn't seem fair, remember,

number one, that God is always present in your pain

God is GOOD all the TIME... He is good.

Even when you're hurting, God is still working.

I've had a few surgeries... anyone in here ever had a surgery or injury which required stitches?

Then you know this truth... even though I'm healing... Even though the problem is fixed... I still experience pain...

There is pain in healing... there is a healing pain...

Just because you are experiencing pain... That does not equate to the absence of God...

He has already begun the healing in the midst of the pain...

If you can get this one... it will change your life...

The devil is bad.... bad things that happen come from the devil... But God is there beginning the healing in the midst of the pain.

Whatever that pain might be...

Someone right now may have let you down.

There may be someone here that you've recently lost someone important to you.

It could have been a broken relationship.

It could have been someone that was sick and didn't make it.

It could be that there's someone that lied to you, took advantage of you, gossiped about you.

It might be that life's not going the way you want.

It could be something as big as cancer.

It might be something as inconvenient as a sore throat on a big day where you have a presentation at work.

It could be that you're praying for someone that you love that's under hospice care right now.

It could be that you got a flat tire on the way to a meeting and was late and you just don't know where God ...

It could be any number of different things.

Whenever you're hurting, whatever level it is, however personal it feels, remember that God is present.

Phil 4:5

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Eph 2:13

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Matt 28:20

and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

God is always present in your pain.

A few months ago I had to take my son to get a blood test. My son is 5, He doesn't like shots or going to the Dr. So the entire time we are driving to the lab, for the blood test I keep telling him that as soon as we are done at the blood test we are going to get ice cream... Ice Cream Liam Ice Cream...

At least 1,000 times I kept redirecting Him to the Ice Cream...

We get to the lab and he sits on my lap... I hold on to him tight as they do the blood test. When the needle went in he screamed and looked up at me... Like whats going on right now... this really hurts...

I'm right here buddy... I'm with you... I know this hurts. I've been through it... He's crying... I'm crying...

I did NOT want my son to have to go through that... NOT AT ALL... My heart is and was to protect him... Take all the pain away I could...

But in this moment we needed this blood test... It saved him tons of future pain by having this blood test right now...

I never left him... Not for one second... I held tightly to him and we both got through it....

Can you look back in you life when there were times you didn't think you could make it through and recognize that God was holding on to you?

Someone or something was causing you pain, but God was pulling you through the situation...

God can NOT step in and stop everything... He can NOT jump in and override free will...

That would NOT be JUST...

A Man named Jarius had a 12 year old daughter who was sick... while Jesus was on His way to heal her, He is interrupted by a miracle...

In the midst of the interruption the little girls dies..

Mark 5:35

While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

The Word Overhearing can also be translated ignoring them.

Ignoring their report...

Jesus is saying... Nothing has changed Jairus I'm still here... Don't let doubt and fear try to take my place... Keep ME in the proper place.

Jesus continues only allowing Peter, James and John to go with Him...

Thats a whole other message... And raises her from the dead!!!!

I am STILL WITH YOU...

You may say, "Well, is God fair?" I'm going to tell you right now, no, he's not.

Did a pastor just say that? Absolutely. **God is not fair.** He's not always fair. God is not fair.

God is just, but he's not always fair. If God was always fair, he would give us what our sins deserve but because he is just, he sent Jesus who paid the price and scripture says this in **Psalm 103**, I hope you feel this, **"God does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."**

Every now and then, you have to thank God that he is not always fair. He doesn't give us what our sins deserve.

Just Like when my son was getting that blood test... It hurt watching that.

When you hurt, God hurts with you.

I'm working and I'm still here." Guess what. He knows what it's like more than anybody else to hurt because he loved you so much so that he did something that wasn't fair.

He sent his son to die and when Jesus became sin, Jesus looked up at the Father and said, "My God, my God, why did you turn away?" The Father knew he could not look upon sin.

But because the Father loved you, he sent his son to die in your place. That is a love beyond anything that we can ever imagine.

Our God is not a heartless God.

Our God doesn't even just love you. He is love.

It's not what he does, it's who he is.

So maybe you have felt before where is God does He even care...?

YES... and NO... He's here and There...

He will not violate Humanities Freedom to Choose... He is Just...

He wants to have a relationship with you, and be part of your life...

He cares about you and the things you invite him into in your life...

Will you invite Him in today?

Pray