

**I WANT TO
BELIEVE, BUT ...**

**JUNE 10th & 11th 2017
Craig Groeschel
LIFECHURCH**

HEARTLESS GOD

1. GOD HAS A _____ IN YOUR PAIN

1PETER 1:6-7

2. GOD IS _____ IN YOUR PAIN

PSALM 46:1

2 COR 12:9-10

Why do good things happen to bad people?

PSALM 103: 10-12

GOD IS NOT FAIR

GOD IS JUST

BLANKS: PURPOSE, PRESENT

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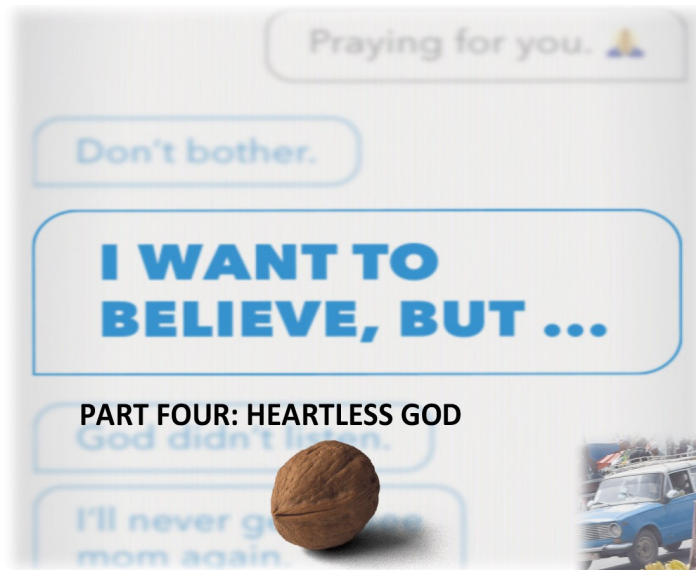
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vision
TEACHING NOTES

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in a nutshell



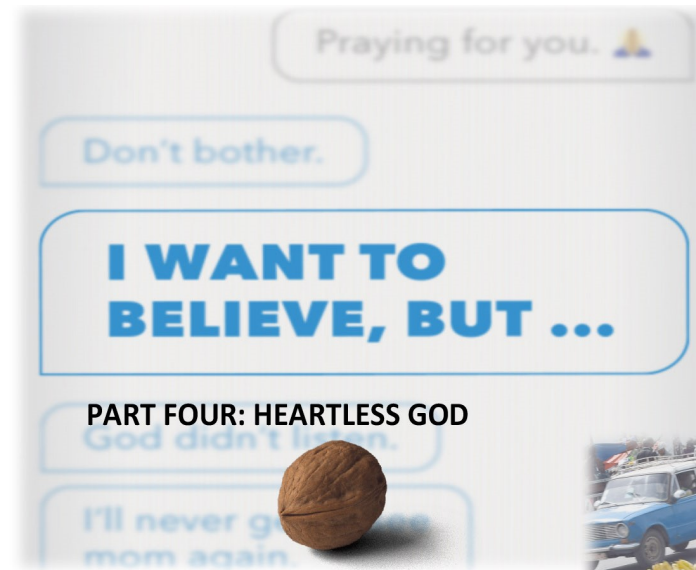
WHAT'D WE EXPECT?

You knew I would go here. I imagine this teaching being presented in a third-world culture. Even with the real stories of parents losing kids – worst stuff we can imagine - I'm picturing a lot of confused faces looking at the preacher. Our brothers n' sisters in most of the world don't expect consistent comfort or ease in life. Safety, good health, prosperity is pretty much out of reach for them – always has been and yet they love God with all of their heart. They just don't expect life to be absent of pain and sorrow. If they get hurt, it doesn't bewilder them. This is the only life they have ever known.

Now, I'm not saying it is easy to just decide to have that kind of perspective, when we are immersed in a different culture where most of us experience many more daily comforts and benefits of being a first-world nation. But as I warned, it is often my go-to reference point for perspective-adjustment when it comes to suffering.



We all know that resistance makes us stronger. And the absence of challenges and uphill struggles makes us weak. (You've heard of space travelers who are greatly weakened due to the absence of gravity). We never want the hard road and we happen to live in a culture where many daily hardships are greatly reduced. But it doesn't mean we can't learn and grow to a place where we live in constant thankfulness and faithful loyalty to God no matter our circumstances.



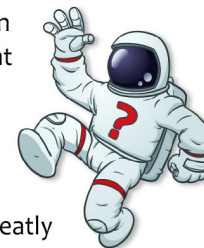
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