



## LifeGroup Discussion Guide

### Part 2 - Immanence

You've heard the saying, "*No pain, no gain*". Go around and share a story of a time in your life when you've experienced gains from painful circumstances?

The 23rd Psalm is a cherished resource for moments of difficulty, trial, and fear. It teaches us about God's attribute of immanence. Immanence is defined as "**God's active presence, accessibility, and relational interaction within the creation.**"

**READ Psalm 23.** Explain how God's immanence is described by relating the psalm to the definition above? What titles and tools are mentioned that communicate immanence?

The fullest expression of God's immanence is found in the person of God's Son, Jesus, and the prime characteristic for God's immanence with us is love. **READ John 3:16** - What should our response be when we encounter the love of God shown to us in Jesus? In the message this week we learned that the nuance of God's love is expressed to us as "compassion". **READ 2 Corinthians 1:3** - How do the characteristics of "compassion" and "comfort" communicate God's love?

According to **2 Corinthians 1:3-4** we receive comfort from God in order that we can comfort others. In a world full of sin, why do you think God has ordered it such that He molds us, equips us, and shapes us for helping others through pain?

**READ John 16:31-33** - Explain where we ought to look for comfort in our troubles? What are some examples of "alternatives" and "counterfeit" comforts to which the world turns?

We have been through many passages that speak about God as Shepherd, His love, and His victory over sin in our world. Our sermon this week challenged us to look towards how we can help bring comfort to those who are hurting in our world. Go around and list off some ways that you can bring peace and comfort to your church family, neighbors, work/school community and world? How is God's comfort in your own life translated into comforting others in your spiritual vicinity? Brainstorm examples.