

5:15 Follow-Up

Series: Lies Teenagers Believe

December 4th, 2019

Speaker: Andrew Wahrman

Lie: God doesn't care.

Genesis 3:14-19; Revelation 20:10-21:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:15-21

As we continue our series in Lies Teenagers Believe we were reminded again last night that there is a liar, and his lies and schemes are aimed directly at the heart of God. Often the most effective of the enemy's lies are the ones we don't even realize we are believing. The lie we covered last night is no different. The world we live in is full of pain and suffering. We experience this personally and even a quick reading of the daily news reveals that the reality of devastating suffering is world wide. It is tempting to believe that God isn't in control, or worse, that He is in control but He doesn't care.

Andrew started by telling us the best way to combat the lie that God doesn't care about our hurt is to study what God is truly like. The best place to do that is the Bible. From there Andrew took us to the beginning, from Genesis 3:14-19, he covered the reason why there is so much pain and suffering in the world. The curse is clear.

But, Andrew did not leave us there. We went on to Revelation 20:10- 21:1-6, to see the end that awaits Satan and all evil. We also saw a picture of our loving God, who will wipe every tear from our eyes. A time is coming when God will tangibly live with us. Not only in the new heaven and new earth is God with us, but just think of it, there will be no more tears and no more pain!

Given that beautiful hope, we moved on to 2 Corinthians 5:15-21 where we see that even though we are presently living in a broken and painful world, God *does* care. In fact He cares so much that He gave us his son to remove any and all obstacles to our being reconciled to Him.

God does not promise us a hurtfree life, bad things do happen, but He does promise to be with us every step of the way. In all of our present suffering, we have the hope of a beautiful, painless future, but even now, have the presence of God with us, our Immanuel, and that's the truth.

Note for specific parental follow-up. In the verses from Revelation, we read over the portion about the lake of fire in which those whose names are not written in the book of life are thrown. Andrew took the time to give a plea for those who haven't come to faith in Christ, to

do so. He encouraged them to talk with parents or a youth leader. Consider checking with your youth regarding this portion of our meeting and how they reacted to it.