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I Have Questions #3 | Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

So....why do bad things happen in a world with a LOVING God?

Jesus both ASKED & ANSWERED a LOT of _____.
(Luke 13:1-5, NIV)

How are we to respond to the terrible?

Control what we CAN _____:

OUR reaction in OUR lives over what WE can affect.

_____. Use it as a reminder of how unpredictable and fragile life can be.

So, that's how we answer for ourselves, but what about when people want to know where God is in the MIDST of the terrible things?

Think about the _____. (MT 4:45b)

Going Deeper.... (Matthew 5:43-47, NIV)

We can break the cycle of people doing _____ by _____ over & over.

WE get to be the difference—THIS is GOD showing up in the brokenness. It's US.

The Theology Behind the Brokenness

The design remains the same, but the operation system has been corrupted.

So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this...(Genesis 3:14-19; Romans 8:18-23, Revelation 22:3)

Eden was the ideal, New Jerusalem the Redemption.
(Revelation 21:4, NIV)

Evidence of this brokenness, this corrupt operating system is EVERYWHERE around us.

But what about the REALLY hard stuff—the stuff that's not fair? What about that? (JN 9:1-3, NIV)

God didn't _____ this happen but WAITED to be INVITED in to _____ what HAPPENED.

Because that's _____.

_____ surrenders control and that is why God does NOT do _____. He can, whenever He can, to whomever He can. Love waits.

- Love is His _____. (Ex. 34:6-7)
- God is LOVE (1 John 4:8)
- God doesn't TAKE _____, He gives them _____ (2 Peter 3:9)

So what is GOD doing?

- God is LOVE so He _____. (2 Peter 3:9)
- God is LOVING so He BELIEVES in _____
- God KEEPS LOVING so He gives _____ for HEARTS to CHANGE.
- God REMAINS LOVING so He allows people to _____.

Waiting Love.... (2 Peter 3:7-12, NIV)
(Revelation 19:1-2, 11-21; 20:7-15; 21:4-8))

See, it isn't GOD that does these things in a broken world. It's US. It's ALWAYS been us.

So what CAN we do?

1-Practice the _____.

2-Pray for the _____ of people to change. (Jeremiah 24:7, Ezekiel 11:19, 36:26)

3-Purpose YOUR life to be one of _____. (Genesis 50:20, Psalm 19:14)