DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening Question

What does "being safe in God's will" mean to you? How has this idea influenced your faith journey?

Key Takeaways

- 1.) God doesn't always call us to safe or comfortable places.
- 2.) Suffering and trials can be part of following God's will.
- 3.) Safety is not promised in this life, but eternal security is.
- 4.) Our definition of "safety" may need to be reconsidered in light of Scripture.

Discussion Questions

- 1.) Pastor Zach challenges the idea that "if it ain't good, it ain't God." How does this perspective differ from common Christian teachings you've encountered?
- 2.) Discuss the context of Jeremiah 29:11. How does understanding the full context change your view of this popular verse?
- 3.) The sermon mentions Paul writing from prison. How does this example challenge our expectations of what it means to be "in God's will"?
- 4.) Reflect on the story of Stephen's martyrdom. What can we learn from his faithfulness in the face of danger?
- 5.) How do you reconcile the idea of God's love with the potential for suffering in following Him?
- 6.) Pastor Zach states, "Opposition is not the measure of your obedience." What does this mean to you? How can we discern between opposition due to faithfulness and opposition due to our own mistakes?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Practical Application

- 1.) Examine your life: Are there areas where you're prioritizing comfort over obedience to God's calling?
- 2.) This week, intentionally step out of your comfort zone in a way that aligns with God's will (e.g., sharing your faith, serving others, addressing a personal sin).
- 3.) Spend time in prayer, asking God to align your definition of "safety" with His perspective.
- 4.) Research the lives of Christian martyrs or missionaries who faced danger. What can you learn from their examples?

Closing Reflection

Consider PZ's closing question: "Would you rather run through a storm toward heaven with the arms of God waiting to receive you? Or would you rather walk in comfort away from your calling and out of the shelter of His arms?" How does this challenge you personally?