

WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN? Sermon for July 12, 2009

Some of you may remember the good news/bad news jokes.

Doctor: I have some good news and I have some bad news.

Patient: What's the good news?

Doctor: The good news is that the tests you took showed that you have 24 hours to live.

Patient: That's the good news? What's the bad news?

Doctor: The bad news is that I forgot to call you yesterday!

A guy is in the hospital with two broken legs. The nurse comes in and tells him that there's good news and bad news.

The guy asks for the bad news first.

The nurse says, "We're going to have to remove your legs."

Then the guy asks for the good news.

The nurse says, "The guy beside you wants to buy your sneakers."

WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

1. Bad things happen because we live in a fallen world – Read Gen. 3:1-19
2. Bad things happen to good people because of the sins of others – Read 2 Samuel 11:14-17
3. Bad things happen to good people to teach and prepare us - Read 1 Samuel 17:31-36
4. Bad things happen to good people to bring glory to God - Read Job 1:8-12
5. Bad things happen to good people to remind us to trust God.
6. Bad things happen to good people, to help other people.
7. Bad things happen to good people to remind us we're not home yet – Read John 16:33

FIRST, it is OK to get mad at God.

SECOND, lean on God's grace when you don't know the answer to why.

THIRD, keep the big picture in mind.

FOURTH, we respond by caring and helping those who are suffering.

FINALLY, something good usually comes out of something bad.

GOOD PEOPLE RESPOND TO BAD THINGS BY:

1. Trusting God – Read Romans 8:28, 31-32
2. Remembering God's Love – Read Romans 8:35, 37-39
3. Looking Ahead - Read 1 Corinthians 2:9