



Stubborn Hope

Isaiah 50:4-9 | Session 10.37

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).

Context (From the Current Session Page)

Read this [article about free hugs](#) and remind the group that It's not much of a leap we have to make to understand the hatred these people may have felt from their family or even people that didn't even know them. Jen Hatmaker has faced hatred on social media for such actions. Ask:

- What people can you think of who have been abandoned for their choices to care for others?
- How can we show love to others despite the hatred and anger we may bring upon ourselves?
- Where does someone get the motivation to stand up and tell people to cease their hatred and attacks on others?
- What would you say to those who question your choices to hug someone they disagree with?

Content (From the Mind Session Page)

Read Isaiah 50:4-9, and watch the Bible Background Video before asking:

- What abilities or gifts does the speaker talk about and how or when might this kind of ability provoke a violent response from others?
- How has the speaker responded to God and why is it important to note first how he responds to God, not just how he responds to his enemies?
- Read aloud Romans 12:17-20. In what ways does this compare to the speaker's response?
- In what ways do you see Jesus' journey foreshadowed here?
- What is the speaker so determined to do, and why do his enemies want to stop him?
- Why, ultimately, can he stand up to his enemies and accusers?

Closure (From the Media Session Page)

Play the Dark Times movie clip and ask:

- What first comes to mind when you see this video and why?
- How do you typically face the dark times of your life?
- At what points do we face the temptation do the easy thing, rather than the right thing?
- How do we choose between what is right and what is easy?
- What can we do to remind ourselves that we have friends and we are not alone in our faith when facing dark times?
- How might we help others know this?

Close in prayer.