



A. W. Tozer wrote that what comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. It is critical that our thoughts of the Almighty are worthy of Him, so in this series we'll explore some great I AM narratives in the Old Testament to remind us that He STILL IS!

**These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.**

**1** Rick began by sharing that the difficulty of this year has confirmed 3 principles that over 6 decades of life have taught him: (1) *Life is hard, and everyone has seasons that are especially difficult.* (2) *The healthiest people are able to find joy and peace in the hard seasons rather than after them.* (3) *Being able to do so depends on putting faith and hope in something or someone that remains unchanging.* How have you experienced these to be true in your life?

**2 WHAT MATTERS MOST is the way we think of God.** Why is this statement so significant? Follow up: What is the first thing that comes into your mind when you think about God? How does that shape what you believe and how you live?

**3** *Moses and the enslaved Hebrews knew "hard." What they did not know was how to think of God. Read Exodus 3:1-15.* What stands out to you the most from this encounter Moses has with God? What did Moses learn from it?

**4** *Read Exodus 13:17-18 and 14:1-4.* Why did God think this way of escape would bring Him glory in Egypt? Follow up: As you reflect on how the story ends with them crossing through the Red Sea (see **Exodus 14:5-30**) what primary lesson was God teaching His children and what can we still learn from this today?

**5** **GOD'S WAY IS BEST! One way God makes a way is to not let us go the way we want.** *One of God's greatest graces is the detours He often makes us take.* Why do you think this is true (see **Proverbs 14:12**)? Share some examples of how you've experienced

some detours in your journey and talk about why you are now grateful for them. Follow up: What are some specific ways these detours have shaped you to be more like Jesus?

**6** **GOD'S WAY IS BEST! Another way God makes a way is by taking us through what we want to go around.** *An obstacle in the way is not necessarily a sign that you are "off course." God often calls us to what He wants us to go through.* Does anyone have a story of how God blessed others by the way He made a way for them? Follow up: How does the way through lead to us having a greater dependence on Him (see **2 Corinthians 1:8-9**)? How have you experienced God's grace in the midst of trials?

**7** **GOD'S WAY IS BEST! Any way God makes is for His glory and our good.** *God doesn't just make the best way; He makes the way that is for our best. Read Isaiah 43:14-16 and 63:11, 14b.* How do these verses remind us of God's ultimate purpose and how is this not only good for you but for others? How does this make you feel?

**8** **GOD'S WAY IS BEST! The only way to freedom is the way made by God.** *The way of salvation can never be the way of human effort. Read Hebrews 10:19-20.* In what ways does this passage remind you that the way of salvation is made possible by Jesus? Why is that so important to know? Follow up: Where do you need God to make a way for you?

