

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this good problem as we look for a future permanent home that Element can move into that will be larger and have some proper Air Conditioning. There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus and people, we hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here.

- The Element Team



MATTHEW 27:46

JAMES 1:17

JOHN 20:17

GENESIS 3:15

JOHN 1:9

JOB 13:15

MATTHEW 27:45-54

2 SAMUEL 18:23

PSALM 22

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### JOIN OUR NEW BULLETIN BOARD

**Share/swap/offer goods & services to all of Element.**

Must attend Element to join, rules apply.  
[facebook.com/groups/ECCbulletinboard](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECCbulletinboard)

### JOIN OUR WEEKLY EMAIL

**Stay up to date in your inbox!**

Sign up at [ourelement.org](http://ourelement.org) or email  
[connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org) and say, "Join mailing list"

### MEN'S DEEP-SEA FISHING

**July 9th, space is limited to 24 spots, sign up today at**

**[moe@ourelement.org](mailto:moe@ourelement.org)**

Boat Charter for 5 hours - \$58  
Rod, License and tackle rentals available.

## TWELVE: JESUS' FALTERING RESOLVE

7/9/2017

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At the end of last year we (Element) asked you to submit any question you had about the bible or faith that made you scratch your head and say, "what in the world does that mean?" We are answering those questions this year in an attempt to help you to understand your Bible and Jesus better.

**Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt a lightbulb (metaphorically) go off and you understood Jesus better?**

We believe that God inspired and led human beings to write the Bible as His revelation to us; meaning that *all* of Scripture is written by Him for our teaching, reproof, correction, and for training us in righteousness. And yet this all knowing, all powerful, all loving God forsakes His own son on the cross. This week's What in the World question is: "*When Jesus says, "My God My God, why have you forsaken me?" Why did He say it? Was it faltering resolve? Was He questioning God's love? Was He regretting God's choice to Sacrifice Him?"* What in the world?!

**What are the times that you question God's love for you?**

**Do you think Jesus views God the Father the same way that you do?**

Jesus' life started in a barn (or cave) surrounded by a few stinky farmers and farm animals; this is not exactly the place any modern father would conceive to be the site of their child's birth. But Jesus' birth shows Jesus' vocation; His calling as God's son was to be an image bearer of His Father, to live a life fully human in all His experiences, but without sinning. God's plan of salvation for all humanity included His son starting life as an outcast and eventually surrendering His life as our Savior.

**Have you ever been given a task you knew was right but seemed impossibly hard? What did you do?**

**Share a moment or experience where you felt forsaken or abandoned by God (or others): what was your response?**

**Have you ever lived out a God-given calling that you felt stretched your faith to a breaking point?**

Jesus can relate to every human experience. His faithfulness as a human being can encourage us to be intimate with God and others even at our lowest, dirtiest, saddest, and most broken moments. Jesus knew the objective truth of Scripture would trump the subjective reality of His circumstances. Jesus so thoroughly believed in the Scriptures that they were what He quoted during the worst agony ever recorded, His own crucifixion, where the weight of sin was placed upon Him.

**Read Philippians 4:8-9.**

**Paul commands us to practice what we have learned and received and heard and seen. How can we come around each other to obey these Scriptures?**

The last few weeks, we have heard some traumatic, wild, and even gross stories of human brokenness. Sin is sin is sin; sin corrupts people, communities, and cultures. What we continue to learn is that no sin is so bad, and no place too far, to keep us from God. Jesus was forsaken *for us...* and that is God's perfect plan of redemption through which we are saved. Jesus' death for us heals communities and makes culture thrive. Why was Jesus forsaken? The answer is "for us." Jesus' death was not forced upon Him; all the way back in Genesis He promised Himself as our Savior to rescue and save us.

**Spend some time in prayer and praise for who God is, what He has done, and how we can live in community because of the fact that we are *not* forsaken.**