


A winter landscape featuring several large evergreen trees heavily laden with snow. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, and the sky is a clear, bright blue. The scene is peaceful and scenic, typical of a snowy mountain or forest setting.

Welcome

A winter landscape featuring several large evergreen trees heavily laden with snow. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, and the sky is a clear, bright blue. The scene is peaceful and serene, with the snow catching the light and creating soft shadows.

Small Group Sunday Next Week
Worship and Prayer this Thursday 6:30pm

The Crossroad of Suffering

Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 **What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?** NIV

Matthew 26:36-46

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37 He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." 39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." 40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. 41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." 42 He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." 43 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. 44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. 45 Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" NIV

Jesus let His close friends see and know His deepest emotions.

“He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, **“My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”**”

Jesus moved toward the Father in His suffering.

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

...He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

A photograph of a forest path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen orange and yellow leaves. Tall, thin trees line the path, with some sunlight filtering through the canopy in the distance. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

At the Crossroad of suffering,
will you walk with God?

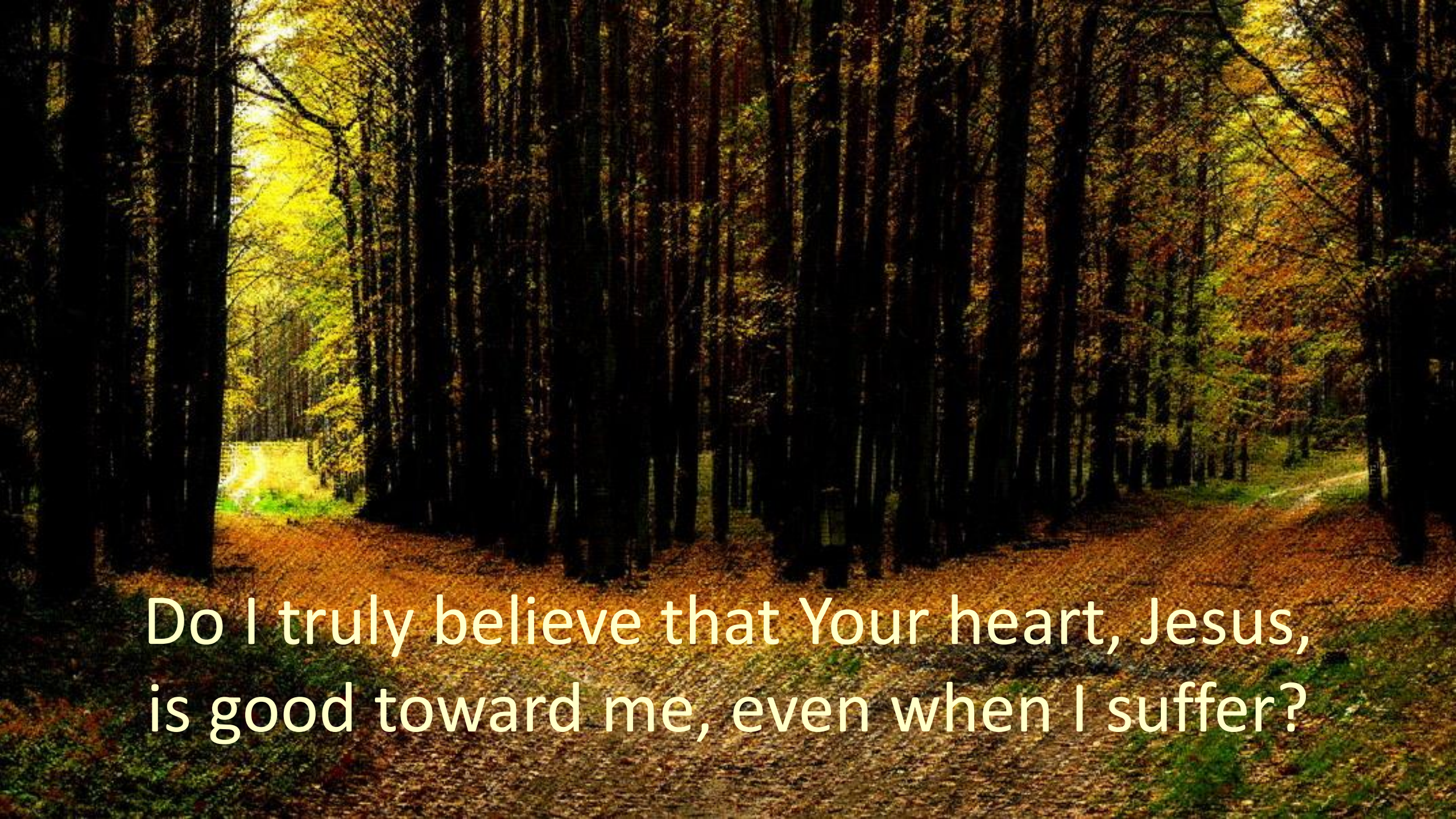


A photograph of a forest path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen brown and orange leaves. Tall, thin trees line the path, with some sunlight filtering through the canopy in the distance. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

What road do I tend to take when
I'm faced with trial or suffering?

A photograph of a forest path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen brown and orange leaves. Tall, thin trees line the path, with some sunlight filtering through the canopy in the distance. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Lord, who have you put in my life
as my inner circle?

A photograph of a forest path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen brown and orange leaves. Tall, thin trees line the path, their leaves also in shades of autumn. The lighting is soft, suggesting a bright day with some shadows. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Do I truly believe that Your heart, Jesus,
is good toward me, even when I suffer?

