

Questions for home groups – Numbers 11: 1-15 / Matthew 27: 52

- What is your experience of trying to pray when life is very painful? How were your prayers affected?
- Why was Moses finding leadership in Numbers 11 such an intolerable burden?
- Why are we tempted to think of the past through romantic spectacles?
- In what sense could you imagine yourself saying the same thing as Moses in verse 15?
- Why might it be ok to vent our pain, anger and confusion at God and to express our inner conflicts and emotions?
- How free do you feel in your Christian life to tell God how it really is, rather than what you imagine he might want you to say?
- In your experience, what might be helpful when praying with others who are in pain?
- What is the significance of Jesus not getting an answer to his question in Matthew 27, *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*
- In 2 Cor 4:8, Paul makes a distinction between perplexity and being in despair. What is the difference?
- *"Offering up your brokenness and pain to God as a sacrifice is an act of worship."* Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- Why might sharing our deepest, darkest fears, secrets and agonies on paper be a helpful way of praying?
- "We need prayer that's been there in times of pain". How can scripture and set prayers of others help us?
- Share what other things help you to pray in times of real struggle

