



DISCIPLE-AT-HOME

TRUST ISSUES / PART FOUR

- 1. What's your understanding of the intersection of happiness and Christianity? Were you, like Patrick under the vague suspicion that pursuing happiness was somehow antithetical to obeying God? Why or why not?**
- Many Christians struggle with wondering if the fact that they are unhappy means that they must not be trusting God enough.

-What would you say to a Christian that feels like God is responsible for their unhappiness?

-How would you counsel someone who feels like their unhappiness must be completely their fault?
- Read **Revelation 21:1-4**. This is a familiar passage of scripture describing the "... *new heaven and earth...*" and what it would be like to be in the full presence of God. While this passage doesn't use the word *happiness* it certainly describes what we might understand as happiness. Our world has experienced a lot in the last three months.

- Maybe particularly in light of the last three months, what specifically are you looking forward to in John's description of the new earth?

- What won't you miss about things going on here and now?
- Happiness and trust intersect in a particular way when we think about sin. Sin is often the pursuit of happiness in way that ultimately hurts ourselves and others. Of course sin will always, result in unhappiness. Can you think of a time where you found yourself thinking you could achieve happiness with a "sin shortcut"?
- Depending on your circumstances, even the question of happiness can feel like a luxury that you can't afford or something far out of reach. **How do we reconcile the idea of happiness being something we desire and the reality of life's difficulties?**

