

Sermon Discussion Questions: June 14, 2026

A Fitting Savior

Sermon Series: Running the Race of Faith

Passage: Hebrews 2:9-18

1. Where do you most resonate with Jerry Sittser's struggle to understand God's presence in suffering?

The sermon noted that God often doesn't give us a clear "why" for our suffering, but instead gives us himself. How have you experienced that tension in your own life? Have there been seasons when God felt distant, or seasons when his presence became especially real?

2. The illustration of the key-cutting machine described Jesus being "made fit" through suffering to become our perfect Savior and guide. How does it change your view of Jesus to know that he understands suffering from the inside rather than merely observing it from a distance?

What particular hardship in your life do you need to bring to him right now?

3. Hebrews says that Jesus came to free us from the lifelong slavery that comes through the fear of death. What fears about the future, aging, loss, or death tend to have the greatest hold on you?

How does the promise that Jesus has already gone before us into death challenge or comfort those fears?

4. The sermon emphasized that Jesus doesn't simply forgive us and then leave us to manage life on our own—he walks with us through suffering, temptation, and weakness. In what area of life are you most tempted to rely on your own strength rather than actively grasping hold of Jesus?

What would trusting him look like this week?

5. The closing story described a dying Christian who could face death with peace because he knew Jesus had already gone before him. What would need to become more true in your heart for you to face suffering, uncertainty, or even death with that same confidence?

What practical steps can help cultivate that kind of hope now rather than waiting for a crisis?

Optional Closing Question

The sermon repeatedly emphasized that Jesus is "not ashamed" to call believers his brothers, sisters, and children. Which of those images—brother, sister, child, friend—most encourages you today, and why?