

# SERMON OUTLINE

## GENEROUS IN RESTORATION

CLAYTON KEENON | DECEMBER 13 & 14, 2025

JOEL 2:18-27

What \_\_\_\_\_?

Can I \_\_\_\_\_?

Will it \_\_\_\_\_?

How can we \_\_\_\_\_

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

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**Icebreaker:** If you could get back one thing you owned in the past that you no longer have, what would it be?

We're about to read Joel 2. Based on what you heard in the sermon, what is the context of this passage? What is the situation Joel is addressing?

Read Joel 2:18-27 out loud. Give everyone 2-3 minutes in silence to write down/mark up their observations from the passage. Then, go around the group and have each person share one of their observations and discuss it.

Think about the people around you, what are some of the "locust plagues" that have devastated you or the people in your community recently?

What is it about suffering that distorts our vision of God?

In Joel 2 describes God as "jealous," compassionate ("pity"), and "faithful." Explain what each of these attributes means. Why are they helpful to be reminded of when you are suffering?

The sermon asks "Can you trust someone who sent a plague of locusts to destroy everything you had?" How do you honestly answer that question? What makes trusting God harder or easier when you know he's sovereign over suffering?

When we suffer, is it because of our sin? How do you figure out if it is?

C.S. Lewis said "God whispers in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains."

Do you agree? Can you think of a time when pain got your attention in a way pleasure never could?

The sermon said that, in the new creation, all our suffering will be stopped, repaid, and transformed.

If you knew for certain this was true, how would that change how you faced your suffering? Why is it hard to believe this is going to happen?

If you were to practice "defiant hope" this week, what would it look like? What action could you take that defies your circumstances and declares restoration is coming?

Give an example of someone you saw being an agent of restoration in the wake of their own suffering.

Who in your life is going through loss and needs you to be generous with your overflow?

**Prayer Prompt:** Go around the group and have each person pray for a situation they know about where someone is experiencing significant loss.