MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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A Different Kind of Freedom

by Joni Eareckson Tada (True Woman '14)

- 1. When you think of experiencing freedom in your soul, what comes to mind? How does knowing and trusting Christ make a difference to your answer?
- 2. From what things do you long to experience freedom? How have you seen God work in those areas?
- 3. Why does God use hardships to "squeeze the lemon" and reveal our sin? How has He done so in your life?
- 4. Joni says, "Suffering is the textbook that will teach you who you really are." How has this been true in your life?
- 5. Have you found Jesus in the middle of your "hell"? How so?
- 6. People have asked Joni, "Don't you think God is asking too much of you?" Can God ever ask too much of us? Why or why not?
- 7. First Peter 2:21 says: "To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps" (niv). How can this verse encourage you in the midst of your suffering?
- 8. How can suffering and pain lead to a deeper healing?
- 9. How can having the same attitude as Christ in regard to suffering be, as Joni says, the "key to freedom" (see 1 Pet. 4:1)?
- 10. When has God answered "no" to a request that later led to "yes" answers you didn't anticipate?
- 11. Joni listed several positive results that God's "no" answers yielded in her life (e.g. forced her to depend more deeply on His grace, increased her compassion for others, pushed her deeper into God's Word, etc.). What positive results have God's "no" answers yielded in your life?

