

Lost & found

A Series in the Gospel of Luke

Senior Pastor
Mark Mullery

Executive Pastor
Vince Hinders

Singles
Seita Sakaguchi

Youth
Steve Whitacre

Family Life
Lou Gallo
Dave Hinders

Administration
Tim Lewis
David Echegoyén

Evangelism & Outreach
Merritt Anderson

When Disaster Strikes

Steve Whitacre

Sovereign Grace Church • January 24, 2010
www.sovgracefairfax.org
703-691-0600

FOR NEXT SUNDAY (JAN. 31)
PLEASE READ LUKE CHAPTER 15

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES LUKE 13:1-5

Tragedy calls for humility.

1. HUMILITY PROTECTS US FROM FAULTY ASSUMPTIONS

“Most of us assume a one-to-one relationship between our suffering and our sin, or between prosperity and obedience... The account of Job clearly demonstrates that the bad things that happen to us are not necessarily related to our sin, any more than the good things that happen to us are related to our righteousness, of which we have none.”¹

2. HUMILITY PROMOTES OUR REPENTANCE AND COMPASSION

“The disasters that God ordains are not aimed at paralyzing his people with indifference, but mobilizing them with compassion.”²

TALKING ABOUT TRAGEDY:

Refer to *Questioning Evangelism*, by Randy Newman, chapters 5 & 6.

- Start with humility
- Get at the problem
- Move toward redemption
- Ask about their response

“At the deepest level, men and women must learn, with Job, that God is very great, and it is an inexpressible privilege to know him, to be satisfied with him, even when – especially when! – we do not have all the answers. These men and women will learn to rest in his love, and will return again and again to the cross, where their vision of that love will be constantly renewed.”³

¹ Carl Ellis, *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*, 125.

² John Piper, *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*, 237.

³ D. A. Carson, *How Long, O Lord?*, 251.