



# Unshakeable in a World Like This

Adapted from “Unshakeable” series by Scott Erickson

In his sermon “Unshakeable,” Scott Erickson tells the following story:

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote on the power of our imagination:

*“Some of your hurts you have cured,  
And the sharpest you still have survived,  
But what torments of grief you endured  
From evils which never arrived!”<sup>1</sup>*

Man times, our fears, worries, and torments are intensified by evils that never arrive as expected. It is possible you look at your present situation and wonder, *“How can I ever make it?”* The enemy seems to whisper, *“No chance!”*

---

<sup>1</sup> Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Borrowing – From the French*, <http://www.bartleby.com/102/45.html>, accessed July 6, 2017.

“Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. May not copy or download more than 500 consecutive verses of the ESV Bible or more than one half of any book of the ESV Bible.”

I don't know your current or future situation. It could be anything.

With divorce rates in America nearing 50%, you could be one of those who fight with constant thoughts and worries about marital trouble.

2.7 American million children under the age of 18 have at least one parent in jail. Single-parent households are growing in number more rapidly than ever before. No matter how divorce is explained, children usually feel rejected and guilty. Perhaps this describes your childhood or family situation?

Or maybe the prognosis from your doctor was *hopeless or incurable*? Possibly, a loved one has passed away. Regardless of the cause, such a severe blow creates a sense of abandonment. Some may ask, *"How can you learn to trust God in a world like this?"*

My response, **I couldn't live in a world like this without God.**<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Scott Erickson, "Unshakeable Part 2." Sermon, The Peoples Church, Salem, Oregon, March 6, 2016.

## **COURAGE Level Questions**

**C1:** When you observe or experience the realities of this fallen, broken, evil world how can you trust God?

**C2:** Describe an event in your life where you have felt stuck in some pattern of life.

**Exercise #1:** It has been said that our perceptions in a situation determine our responses to that situation. Describe a response you had to a situation where you felt like you were going nowhere.

**Exercise #2:** Now, describe a response you had to a situation you later discovered was incorrect because you had the wrong information.

**C3:** Thinking about your response in Exercise #2, how did you feel after you discovered your perception was based on incorrect or incomplete information?

**Exercise #3:** The God of the universe is all-knowing and all-powerful in every aspect of life. Read the following verses and answer the questions.

**Psalm 139:1–6 (ESV)** O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

Now describe at least two things from these verses that connect God to every aspect of our life.

## STRENGTH Level Questions

**Exercise #1:** The man of God can never move beyond God's care and concern. Describe a time in your life where your situation seemed hopeless, yet you **could** sense God's care and concern for you.

How did you feel in that moment?

**S1:** If it is true that God is always with us, how does one understand God's presence during difficulty?

**Exercise #2:** Read the following verses and answer the questions.

### **Psalm 139:7–9 (ESV)**

**S2:** What can you learn from these verses of scripture regarding God's care and concern?

**S3:** Have you ever tried to hide from God? How did you try it? How well did it work?

**Exercise #3:** Where you are today, you can feel God's hand. Read the following verses and answer the questions.

### **Psalm 139:10 (ESV)**

**S4:** What is one thing you can know about God?

## Psalm 139:13–16 (ESV)

**S5:** From these verses, what are two things you can know about God in conjunction with your life?

**Exercise #4:** On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being *very well* and 4 being *not well*, rate yourself on managing your fear of tomorrow.

Write out a plan to reduce your fear of tomorrow?

## ENDURANCE Level Questions

**Exercise #1:** God has a plan for each of our lives. We should strive to live our life to the fullest potential. Read the following verse and answer the question.

### Psalm 90:10 (ESV)

**E1:** What does this verse speak to you regarding the time you have here on this earth?

**Exercise #2:** On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being *very well* and 4 being *not well*, how wisely have you used your time on earth so far?

Now write out a plan to improve your use of your time over the next year.

**Exercise #3:** You may have been abandoned by someone. You may have been crushed by circumstances beyond your control. Read the following verse and answer the question.

## **Psalm 90:12 (ESV)**

**E2:** What does this verse say to do in this type of circumstance?

**Exercise #4:** On a scale from 1-4, with 1 being *very well* and 4 being *not well*, rate yourself on how well you live by this verse.

Now write out a plan to improve in this area.

**Exercise #5:** Many men speak in such a way that holds them in bondage. To break free, men must come to the place where they can speak the Word of God from their heart. Read the following verses and answer the question.

### **Psalm 139:23–24 (ESV)**

**E3:** What are two things you can learn from these verses to help you break free?

**E4:** After reading the following verses, what would you write in the margin that makes them personal for you?

### **Nehemiah 8:10 (ESV)**

### **Psalm 23:4 (ESV)**

### **Psalm 27:1 (ESV)**

**Psalms 37:4 (ESV)**

**Isaiah 54:14 (ESV)**

**Philippians 4:7 (ESV)**

**Colossians 1:13 (ESV)**

**Colossians 3:5 (ESV)**