



Unshakeable in a World Like This

Adapted from “Unshakeable” series by Scott Erickson

Scott Erickson in his sermon “Unshakeable” tells the following:

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!¹

In most cases, enough evils have arrived to intensify our fears about present problems. It is possible you look at your present situation and wonder, “How can I ever make it?” The enemy seems to whisper, “No chance!” With divorce rates in America nearing 50%, many of us fight thoughts of trouble. In America, 2.7 million children under the age of 18 have at least parent in jail. In America, the group that seems to grow the fastest is single parent homes. No matter how divorce is explained, children usually feel rejected and guilty. Or maybe it’s the prognosis from your doctor...incurable? Or possibly a loved one passes away. Regardless of the cause, a severe blow creates a sense of abandonment. Many 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.²

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

² Scott Erickson, “Unshakeable Part 2.” Sermon, The Peoples Church, Salem, Oregon, March 6, 2016.

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COURAGE

C1: When you hear how bad the world is, how can you trust God? Describe an event in your life where you have felt stuck in some pattern of life.

C2: 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.
- Now describe a response you had to a situation you later discovered was incorrect because you had the wrong perception.
- How did you feel after you discovered you had a wrong perception?

C3: The God of the universe is all-knowing and all-powerful in every aspect of life. Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Psalms 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.

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

STRENGTH

S1: 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?

S2: If it is true that God is always with us, how does one understand God's presence during difficulty? Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Psalm 139:7–9 (ESV)

- What can you glean from these verses of scripture regarding God's care and concern?

- Have you ever tried to hide from God? How? How well did it work?

S3: Where you are today, you can feel God's hand. Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Psalm 139:10 (ESV)

- What is one thing you can know about God?

Psalm 139:13–16 (ESV)

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



- 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

E1: 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 questions.

Psalm 90:10 (ESV)

- What does this verse speak to you regarding the time you have here on this earth?
- On a scale of 1-4 with 1 being well and 4 being not well, how wisely have you used your time on earth thus far?
- Write out a plan to improve your use of your time for the next year.

E2: You may have been abandoned by someone. You may have been crushed by circumstances beyond your control. Read the following verse and answer the questions.

Psalm 90:12 (ESV)

- What does this verse tell us to do in this type of circumstance?
- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being well and 4 being not well, rate yourself on how well you follow this verse.
- Write out a plan to improve in this area.

E3: Many men have spoken words that hold 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)

- What are 2 things you can glean from these verses to help you break free?

E4: Read the following verses and write them out making them personal for you.

Nehemiah 8:10 (ESV)

Psalm 23:4 (ESV)

Psalm 27:1 (ESV)

Psalm 37:4 (ESV)

Isaiah 54:14 (ESV)

Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

Colossians 1:13 (ESV)

Colossians 3:5 (ESV)