

SUFFERING

March 22, 2020

Fear of suffering makes us obsessed with “safety”

We grasp at anything to try and “stay in control” but we never actually are. Control is an illusion—but God gives us full control over our own choices.

Matthew 10:5-42, Job 1-2

Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord

We must face reality as it is to thrive—or even survive! God is in ultimate control, we are not, and suffering still happens. We are expected to be as wise as we can be, but true strength begins with solid trust.

James 4, Psalm 25:4-5, Job 3, Psalm 27:8

Embrace the good that remains

There is SO MUCH GOOD still happening, including the shelters we hide in, the beauty of nature, and the technology that lets us stay connected.

Acts 16, Philippians 4, 1 Peter 2:17

Embrace the mystery

Hardships DO come, but nothing can separate us from His love.

Romans 8:14-15 & 28-39, Isaiah 8:13

Fear of not doing what needs done inspires bravery

When we follow the example of Jesus—the Suffering Servant—He will be with us. He will give us the power, love, and wisdom we need.

Philippians 2:1-11, 2 Timothy 1:7

Lord, I will...

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

SUFFERING

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Fear of suffering makes us obsessed with “safety”

Share some things you do to “stay in control.”

Share some things you do to “stay safe.”

Share some ways you have seen this work.

Share some ways you have seen this not work—and any fears you have.

Share some ways you have seen good come out of hard times.

Matthew 10:5-42, Job 1-2

Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord

Share some ways you are facing reality and getting things done.

Share some ways you wish God was doing more, right now.

Share some ways you are choosing to trust Him, no matter what.

James 4, Psalm 25:4-5, Job 3, Psalm 27:8

Embrace the good that remains

Share some good things you are experiencing.

Share some good things you are seeing or noticing.

Share some good things you are doing more intentionally.

Acts 16, Philippians 4, 1 Peter 2:17

Embrace the mystery

Share at least one big question you still wrestle with.

Share at least one-way God has strengthened you in hard times.

Share at least one-way God seems closer in hard times.

Romans 8:14-15 & 28-39, Isaiah 8:13

Fear of not doing what needs done inspires bravery

Share something brave you have seen others doing.

Share something brave you are doing right now.

Share something brave you know God is calling you to do.

Philippians 2:1-11, 2 Timothy 1:7

Lord, I will...