

How to Suffer – Job 1:13-22

Message Discussion Guide

Connect

- If you could wish for one thing to come true this year, what would it be?

Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read James 1:2-4 and 1 Peter 1:6-7.
 - In James 1:2, we are told to “count it all joy” when facing difficulty. In 1 Peter 1:6, we are told to “rejoice.” What do you think this means?
 - What are the reasons these passages give us to be joyful in the face of suffering?
 - What are some practical steps we can take to be joyful when life is hard?
- Read Romans 8:18 and John 14:1-3.
 - These passages address the same situation and offer the same advice. What is the situation addressed by these two passages? What is the counsel given?
 - How could you explain this to a friend or family member who is struggling with pain or grief?
- Read 1 Corinthians 10:10 and Philippians 2:14.
 - What does the Bible forbid in these passages?
 - Why does the Bible forbid this?
 - How common is this sin? How often do you commit this sin?
 - What do these passages tell us about how we should face suffering?
- Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.
 - According to this passage, what is one of the reasons God comforts us when we face trouble?
 - What are some ways you have seen or experienced someone giving comfort to others because God had first comforted them through a similar situation?
- Read Acts 7:54-60.
 - Where was Stephen’s focus through this whole ordeal? Why do you think that is significant?
 - What can we learn from Stephen that can help us deal with difficulty?

Respond

- If a skeptic says the presence of evil and suffering in this world proves that there cannot be an all-powerful, loving God, how would you respond?
- If a lost friend or family member is suffering terrible pain or grief, how could you gently comfort him or her with the truths you have learned from these Scripture passages?

Bonus Question for Thinkers

- In light of what Jesus said in Luke 13:1-5, what is the connection between people experiencing tragedy and loss and the same people’s personal choices concerning sin?