



Under Construction | Suffering

1/21/2024

Reflect + Discuss

- Consider opening your time together by just doing an honest check in with everyone in the group. Ask the question, “how are you *really*?” and let people share where they’re at.
- What experiences have impacted how you view the relationship between faith and suffering? Has your view changed over time?
- Read Psalm 13:1-2, then 13:5. Read Psalm 22:1, then 22:22. Read Psalm 42:9, then 42:11. How do the writers hold on to hope in the midst of suffering? Have you experienced this? How can we hold on to hope for ourselves when we inevitably suffer?
- Read John 16:33. How does this promise from Jesus provide comfort or perspective amid suffering?
- Where do you find hope, strength, and comfort when faced with tragedy? Have you ever experienced God’s presence during a challenging time? Does that impact how you experience suffering now?
- What are some ways we (as the church) can better respond to personal and large-scale suffering when it comes? How can we make sure we aren’t using a sword as a scalpel?

Pray

- Pray for what was shared at the start of time together and lift prayer requests from your group. Also pray for those in our community and in our world who are suffering—generally, or in specific situations that come to mind. Pray that the God of all hope and comfort would be near to the broken hearted and suffering.

Next Steps

- Check out the [resources page](#) for links to several Bible reading plans and other helpful tools. Explore other opportunities for growth and transformation by checking out [courses](#).