

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. Feel free to use them for your personal study time, your family, or your Family Group.

MESSAGE OVERVIEW

Life in Christ is the abundant life but it's not necessarily an easy life. In fact, few things present the opportunity for transformation like suffering. Even Jesus "learned obedience from what he suffered" (Heb. 5:8). It is nearly certain that we will have to persevere through significant challenges to become who God created us to be.

READ ROMANS 5:1-5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Can you remember a time when you think you had a positive response to suffering?

What about a negative response? How did those experiences shape your character?

What are some of the pitfalls of believing things will go well for you as long as you remain faithful?

What is the difference between rejoicing *in* suffering and rejoicing *in spite of* suffering?

In other words, how do we persevere through suffering without numbing ourselves to the discomfort that comes with it?

While we don't want to live in a way that avoids pain/discomfort at all costs, we also don't want to develop a martyr complex or become self-righteous. How can we find the healthy tension between those two extremes?

APPLICATION

What is God saying to you through this passage of Scripture?

In light of what you've experienced, how are you going to be different in the future?