



Message Outline

Suffering: Not "If" But "When"

John 16:33



Intro: From celebration to suffering...

- The universality of suffering...
- The crux of Christianity speaks to suffering...
 - The God who enters, experiences, and overcomes suffering!!!

Read: John 16:33

- "Jesus speaking": earned the right to speak into suffering as the Suffering Servant (cf. Is. 53ff.).
- "in me": the prescription for pain...
- "may have": possibility/potentiality for peace...
- "in this world...trouble": life's guarantee...
- "but take heart": contrast and courage...
- "I have overcome...": Jesus defeats suffering.
 - Good Friday yields Easter Sunday!

The Bible on Suffering

- Passages of Biblical Principles: Acts 14:21-22, Ex.3:7, Ps.119:50, Rom.5:1-5, 8:17-18, 12:2, 2Cor.1:3-5, 4:17, Jms.5:10-11, 1Pet.4:12-13
- Passages of Biblical People: Paul, Job, Daniel, Joseph, David, Heb.11 list of faith/suffering, etc.

Sorting thru Suffering

1) E _____ Suffering

- "you will have trouble" (Jn.16:33)...it's promised!
- No longer in Eden...
- Preparation and handling adversity...

2) E _____ of Suffering

- Trials aren't a trail we walk alone...Jesus and many others (cf. Heb.11:35ff.).

3) E _____ of Suffering

- God's at work in suffering and will one day end suffering...



Small Group

Reflection Questions



(Please take time to ponder and pencil in to prep for this week's small group session.)

Read: 1 Thessalonians 1

**From this passage, what do you notice about how Christians are to live?*

**What spoke to you this past Sunday (ie. what made you laugh, learn, look deeper at life etc.)?*

**For the next 4 weeks we'll be talking suffering, and so here is an opposite question: what is something that almost always makes you happy/smile? (Remember that the next 4 weeks ☺).*

**Other than Jesus, who is someone in history that has suffered extremely? What's their legacy?*

**What's a trial that's taught you something in life? What was the event and what was the lesson?*

**Psalm 119:50 talks of God's promises preserving us in suffering. Is there a Bible passage that has spoken to you in the midst of suffering before? What's the verse and what was the occasion it spoke to you thru?*