

I Believe: Does God Care That I'm Suffering
Ben Foote, Week 4
August 28th, 2022

// Bible References: 1 Peter 1:6,7; Romans 8:18-31

// Other References: www.stepbible.org

// Community Questions

1. Tell about a time when someone took what you said out of context, and it caused friction in the relationship or work situation.

// Discussion Questions

1. Describe a medical procedure or process you had to go through that seemed like it was going to be really bad but afterward, the end or reward far outweighed the pain of getting there.
2. When you are suffering, what is the impact of suffering alone versus going through the same suffering with someone else who is suffering the same difficulty?
3. Ben said that Christians can tend to have a "pretty bad reputation" for trivializing the suffering of other people.
 - One day you'll look back at this and...
 - I remember when I lost my job...
 - I know what you mean, when I lost Fido, I was devastated. I can't imagine what it's like losing a child.

What should we say or do when someone is suffering? (Let your group be the filter for your suggestions.)

4. In 2 Corinthians 11, we learn that once Paul became a Christian, his suffering began. He was a celebrated, devout Jew who persecuted Christians and became a Christian which started the suffering. Does this happen today when people become Christians? In what way?
5. Ben said that we are living the real – no BS – version of hope when we can mourn our present suffering and look forward to the future. What can happen if you do one of those but not the other? How do we live out doing both?

// Challenge. What are you choosing to fill your mind with that is not helping where your thoughts dwell? What is God telling you to do instead? Choose one thing to do this week to prepare your mind to be filled with something better.