

PARTICIPANT GUIDE // WEEK 5

Series Big Idea

The greatest priority in the life of a Christian should be to develop a deeper relationship with God.

Message Big Idea

Suffering is a critical element in the development of a deepening relationship with God.

Scripture

Romans 8:18-30

Ice Breaker & Opening Thought

1. Describe a situation of suffering that you find deeply troubling.
2. Describe your greatest question regarding God and suffering.

Bible Discussion: Romans 8:18-30

1. Describe all of the things that could be connected to a broken creation/nature? How about humanity? How are we broken?
2. Were you aware that God's Spirit is praying for you? What do you think that looks like?
3. Describe how suffering can lead to Christlikeness.

Life Application

1. If you are willing, share a tough situation you have experienced or are experiencing. How could God use it for your good?
2. Do you believe you have been positively changed through suffering? Describe it.

Challenge

Suffering is part of how we grow. It is the one part that we have little control over. Knowing that God can truly use it to make us better, on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 not good and 5 being totally open) what would you rate your response to God's tools for growth? What would it take to move it 1 point better?