

PAIN – LIFE Group Study Guide
Where is God? - Part 2, Pain Response
Pastor Miles McPherson, Sept 18, 2016

This week, Pastor Miles described how our response to pain is directly related to how you identify your relationship to God. And that as children of God, our response to pain needs to glorify God, and that our pain produces righteousness.

1. Opening Discussion:

Looking back on a time when you went through a period of pain and suffering, can you identify what it was that God wanted you to learn?

Leader Note: After everyone has shared, have the group's note as to how many "lessons" were learned through those periods of pain and suffering.

Is there pain and suffering currently in your life in which it is unclear what it is that God is trying to teach you?

Pastor Miles said that he doesn't need applause but that we need to be saying "yeah I can do that". What are some of those things that God has already taught us that we need to begin putting into practice?

2. Going Deeper:

Read 2 Corinthians 1 verses 3-11. Paul describes how his suffering served in ministry.

Discuss how any of your own pain and suffering has produced ministry opportunities.

How did you act on those opportunities and how quickly were you to respond?

Describe how those opportunities benefitted or blessed you and those you served.

3. Group Activity:

Divide into 2 groups. Assign one person in each group be the note taker.

Have group A make a list of times when God had delivered them from pain and suffering.

Have group B list times when God had used them to deliver others from pain and suffering.

Group A: Describe how the Spirit of Glory affected you and or those around you as a result of God's deliverance.

Group B: Describe how the Spirit of Glory affected you and or those around you as a result of God's deliverance to others.

If your group is large, suggest breaking up in smaller groups of 2 Or 3 for these questions:

Pray silently for the Holy Spirit to lead you to share with the other persons:

What troubles, hardships or persecutions are separating you from loving God even more?

Take notes on the pain and suffering others in the group have identified so that you may pray over them daily until next weeks group study.

4. Take it Home:

What did it take or would it take to convince you that "neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord"?