



Sermon series: Fighting Fear With Fear
Text: 2 Corinthians 1:8-10
Delivered: August 6th, 2023
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The Fear of Suffering and Death

BIG IDEA: *God is greater than, with you in, and has a purpose for the suffering you will face!*

1. What you need to hear to prepare for suffering – GOD IS _____!

2. What you need to hear when you're going through suffering – GOD IS _____!
 - A. Don't _____ your _____

 - B. R_____ On _____

3. What you need to hear to when you've come through suffering – GOD HAS A _____!
 - A. God is going to _____ your suffering in a _____ way.
 1. To Test Us
 2. To Humble Us
 3. To Break Us
 4. To Remind Us
 5. To Reveal to Us
 6. To Develop Us
 7. To Enable Us

 - B. Your _____ nothing in comparison to what lies ahead in _____.

4. What you need to hear when you're facing death – GOD IS _____!

What is the funniest or most embarrassing text message you've sent or received, with or without an autocorrect fail?

Have you ever heard or shared that God wouldn't give you more than you could handle? Have you ever felt like the suffering you were going through was **MORE** than you thought you could endure? If so, what would hearing that phrase make you think about God in relation to that suffering?

Why do people fear suffering? What would you say is **YOUR** greatest fear when facing or even thinking about suffering?

Read **2 Corinthians 1:8-10** again. How did Paul describe the suffering he and his companions experienced? What was the purpose or the result of them experiencing that type of suffering? What was the promise that they clung to in the midst of their suffering and for future suffering? [HINT: it's in verse 10]

How does the sovereignty of God **HELP** us as we prepare for and go through suffering? How does the sovereignty of God confuse or provoke doubt in our lives when we go through suffering? How does God's **GOODNESS** partner with His sovereignty and how does that help us when we are experience immense difficulties and challenges?

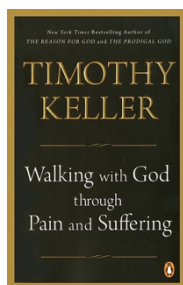
As you look back on the times you have gone through great seasons of sorrow and/or suffering, what verse(s) or passage(s) were the most comforting to you? How did you experience the presence and peace of God through them? How have you seen God use them to grow you, strengthen you or minister to others?

How does the promise of heaven and eternity help us in the midst of suffering? How does the death and resurrection of Christ help us to not fear death? Is it okay to be sorrowful over death but not fear it? How?

Take some time to share with your CARE Group what you are currently going through in your life. Encourage one another with God's promises to be with you through them and then pray for each other.

**RECOMMENDED
RESOURCES:**

**Walking With God
Through Pain & Suffering**
by Tim Keller



**Why Does God Let
Bad Things Happen?**
by Chris Morphew



The Story of Death and Life
Message by Kyle Kauffman