

Family Discussion Questions:

Introduction:

1. Have you ever been asked about why a good God would allow so much suffering?
2. How did you respond?

What do I think?

1. Why do you think there's so much suffering in the world we live in?
2. Do you believe that trials and suffering can really be used for good?
3. Why do you think it's so hard for us to have a right perspective of God when times are tough?

What does God say?

1. Read 1 Peter 4:12-14 – Why does Peter say not to be surprised when trials come?
2. Why does he say we are blessed if we are reviled for the name of Christ in verse 14?
3. Read 1 Peter 4:15-19 – In verses 15 and 16 what are the right and wrong reasons for our suffering?
4. Read 1 Peter 5:10 – What does God promise us in this verse when we suffer?

What steps will I take?

1. How can better surrender yourself to God's will even in difficult times?
2. How can you have a right perspective of God in times of suffering and share that perspective with those who ask this question?

Challenge:

This week spend time with God. Ask Him to help you better understand His goodness and sovereignty. Ask Him to help you shift your perspective onto Him in times of suffering instead of on yourself and the suffering itself. Be ready to allow God to use you to answer this question and lead hurting people to the healing Jesus offers through the cross. If you haven't already, memorize 1 Peter 5:10.