

How to Respond to Suffering

Text: Romans 8:18-39

Introduction:

1. Focus on the Hope of God (18-25)
 - Suffering in the now time is not worthy to be compared with the glory to be revealed
 - All of creation was affected by the fall of man
 - All of creation is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God
 - Part of the hope of our sonship is the resurrection of the body
 - Hope is waiting patiently for that which we do not see

2. Partake of the Help of God (26-27)
 - The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness
 - Sometimes we don't even know how to pray
 - The Holy Spirit intercedes for us

3. Understand the Purpose of God (28-30)
 - God's purpose is for us to be conformed to the image of His Son
 - God's purpose is the "good" unto which all things work together
 - God's purpose for us is consistent with His finished work in us

4. Rest in the Acceptance of God (31-39)
 - God is for us
 - God will with the gift of His Son freely give us all things necessary to accomplish His purposes for our lives
 - God has justified us
 - Christ intercedes for us as our representative
 - Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ
 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God

Conclusion: