

# Benefitting from Suffering

## I. Introduction

## II. Scripture

## III. Outline

### A. What is suffering?

### B. Why do we suffer?

### C. How does suffering relate to Christian growth?

### D. How can we benefit from suffering?

1. Suffering teaches us to find \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 1:4)
2. Suffering helps us to \_\_\_\_\_ and have \_\_\_\_\_ on others (2 Cor. 1:4)
3. Suffering weans us from \_\_\_\_\_ upon ourselves (2 Cor. 1:9)
4. Suffering helps us to grasp the \_\_\_\_\_ in and \_\_\_\_\_ of God (2 Cor. 1:5-7, 10)
5. Suffering encourages us to \_\_\_\_\_ for one another and \_\_\_\_\_ God for answered prayer (2 Cor. 1:11)
6. Suffering \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet. 1:6-7)
7. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_ in the Christian life (Jas. 1:2-4)
8. Suffering that is endured leads to \_\_\_\_\_ (Jas. 1:12)
9. Suffering teaches us to \_\_\_\_\_ God (Heb. 5:8)

#### The foundation of Christian growth

1. Grounded in the gospel
2. Growing in Christ
3. Looking to Jesus

#### The process of Christian growth

4. Using God's means for growth
5. Becoming who you are

#### The difficulties of Christian growth

6. Benefitting from suffering
7. Fighting temptation + Persevering

10. Suffering leads us to \_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 119:50, 67, 71)
11. Suffering causes us to \_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 116:1-4)
12. Suffering forces us to \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves.
13. Suffering wakes us up from \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Suffering proves whether we are \_\_\_\_\_ or not (Luke 8:13)
15. Suffering forces us to either \_\_\_\_\_ or reject God's \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 2:10)

**E. How can we make our suffering worse?**

1. Doubt God's \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Give in to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in your suffering.
3. Take out any \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ on other people.
4. Get angry when your \_\_\_\_\_ are threatened.
5. Pursue comfort in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ pleasures.
6. Do not seek \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ from other believers (Jas. 5:13-16).
7. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself from other \_\_\_\_\_ entirely.
8. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ altogether.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ God and/or others for your suffering.
10. Reject the idea the God might be \_\_\_\_\_ you for a good purpose (Heb. 12:5-13).
11. Don't seek \_\_\_\_\_ from God to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ through suffering.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ the devil's lies that God hates you, that He is punishing you, or that you are not saved.
13. Hold on to your \_\_\_\_\_ by pushing people away or not seeking help.
14. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ on the Holy Spirit for \_\_\_\_\_ during suffering.
15. Stop looking at Christ's \_\_\_\_\_, and stop looking to Christ as your \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in life.

**IV. Homework**