
⁹ She said, "Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die!" ¹⁰ He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

Suffering: Job's latter responses (Job 3-37)

Depression exposes the "gunk" that drives us in wrong directions

HOPE

2 Corinthians 4:16 (RSV) So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. ¹⁷ For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Key: p 1: Suffering. Hope. Hope. Ache. Manage.

P 2: good. relief. "life." gave up. P 3: explanation

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of past PCI messages at www.pacificchurch.com

Suffering

Re-Routing: God's Back Roads to Joy—part 8

July 28, 2024

What is Joy?

Definitions of joy: Certainty, Hunger, Belovedness, Glad surrender, Delighted dependence, Pouring. Maturity.

Re-routing to Joy: Shattered dreams, Unmet longings, Brokenness, Loss of control, Fallen world. Heartache. Trials.

Route to Joy #8: S_____.

Joy definition #8: H_____.

Romans 5:3 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Suffering—>Anticipatory Joy ->Endurance->

Character->H_____ ->God's love poured out

Romans 8:23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The ache:

Because we were built to enjoy what is not fully available until heaven there will always be an a_____ in our soul.

3 Counterfeit routes with regard to suffering:

1. Find a way to m_____ life to alleviate the ache.

This becomes our principle purpose.

2. If you can't manage life, find a way to feel **g**_____ about yourself.

This becomes our principle priority.

3. Do whatever it takes to achieve **r**_____.

This becomes our principle value.

Suffering: Will a man serve God for nothing?

Job 1:3...He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

Job 1:8 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." ⁹ "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. ¹⁰ "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

Suffering and depression

1. The loss of what we deem "l_____."

2. We **g**_____ finding a way to get what we think we need.

Job 1:12 The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Job 1:13-17

Job 1:18 While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁹ when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

Everyone who's plunged into a nightmare wants an **e**_____.

Suffering: Job's initial response

Job 1:20 At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship

Job 1:21 "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." ²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Depression: exposes our deepest beliefs about God, blessings, and "life"

Job 2:4 "Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A man will give all he has for his own life. ⁵ But stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face." ⁶ The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life." ⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. ⁸ Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes.
