

Suffer/Struggle

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experience pain; personally afflicted by something awful; try to get free of restraint; ache, misery, wrestle

Suffering's Purpose

We also boast in suffering, knowing that suffering produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Romans 5:3-4 TLV)

More Than Meets The Eye (Hebrews 11:13-40)

Jesus' Holy Spirit invites us to share in our Savior's suffering and pain as a crucible for learning perseverance, wisdom, and the nature of true joy and peace. This passage grounds our faith in God's mysterious, sovereign plan. We don't see ourselves and the world the same way as our Heavenly Father. We can't discern how everything works together according to his plan, which includes the role of suffering and pain in our lives. What we behold at work in the journeys and stories of the saints is that they didn't understand what God was doing at the time of their struggle, but they believed he was preparing a place for them in heaven and was faithfully with them as they suffered. The biggest surprise for us all is that there is no way better to know God than in suffering.

Discipleship & Prayer

- Do I have any unresolved bitterness in my heart?
- Is there anything I'm unwilling to face if it's God's will?
- Holy Spirit, nurture my faith as I suffer with my Savior.