

Connection Group Discussion

1. Read **Deuteronomy 30:19**. Human choice is obviously a primary reason for suffering in this world. Why do you think people blame God for human choices that result in suffering? How would you respond to those objections?
2. Read **1 John 5:19**. What role does the Evil One, who the Scripture calls Satan, have in causing human suffering? Why do you believe Satan desires to cause human suffering?
3. Read **Romans 8:28**. Can you give an example of a time when God brought good out of a time of suffering in your life? What happened? How did God use it?
4. Read **Hebrews 4:15**. How does the reality that God suffered impact you in your times of suffering or in observing the suffering of others?
5. Read **John 14:2** and **Acts 10:38**. When Jesus was on the earth part of Jesus' mission was to relieve human suffering. As His representatives, how should we respond to human suffering?



Part 6: How Can A Good God Allow Suffering? Pastor Todd Hudnall March 12 & 13, 2011

Psalm 90:10; 1 Corinthians 13:12-13 (MSG)

Understanding Suffering and Evil

1. **God is not the _____ of evil and suffering.**

Genesis 1:31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed *it was* very good.

James 1:13-14 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

1. **God is not _____
everything that happens in this world.**

Psalm 115:16 (MSG) The heaven of heavens is for GOD, but he put us in charge of the earth.

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

2 Corinthians 4:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:7

2. **God can bring _____ out of evil.**

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

Romans 5:3-4 (NCV) "...troubles produce patience. And patience produces character, and character produces hope."

1. **God in Christ has _____
and can sympathize with our suffering.**

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin.

2. **God will some day bring an _____ to all evil.**

Romans 8:21 Because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Revelation 21:4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

2 Corinthians 4:7; Romans 8:18

Unless otherwise noted all Scriptures are from the New King James Version