



PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH

May 21, 2017

PRESENCE

Reflections

"Human nature is such that grief and pain — even simultaneously suffered — do not add up as a whole in our consciousness, but hide, the lesser behind the greater, according to a definite law of perspective... This is the reason why ... man is never content. In fact it is not a question of a human incapacity for a state of absolute happiness, but of an ever-insufficient knowledge of the complex nature of the state of unhappiness; so that the single name of the major cause is given to all its causes, which are composite and set out in an order of urgency. And if the most immediate cause of stress comes to an end, you are grievously amazed to see that another one lies behind; and in reality a whole series of others."

Primo Levi on our self inflicted unhappiness
in *Survival in Auschwitz*

Scripture

1 Peter 4:12-19

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Sermon

Suffering the Way God Wills

Rankin Wilbourne

Events & News

Orphan Care Class, May 28 – June 18

Learn the “why” and “how” to get involved with children in foster care. This class draws from scripture-based curriculum that is focused on the need for homes, mentors and volunteers for children who are in foster care.

Community Group Fair, June 4

Get to know people from Community Groups that meet near your home or workplace. Community Groups are one of the best ways to connect with others and experience everything we talk, pray, and sing about on Sundays.

View all events on our app, at PacificCrossroads.org/Events, or in our events brochure available at the Connect Center.

Ministry Resources

Pastoral Care

Our pastoral care team is here to care for you if you are in a difficult place. Email pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org or call our office at 310.551.0081.

Celebrate Recovery

Join together weekly with others to celebrate God’s healing power in our lives. Visit PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery.

Community Groups

Community Groups meet all around LA to know and care for one another and grow as follower of Jesus. Learn more and sign up for a CG in your neighborhood at PacificCrossroads.org/Community