



Part 5 – Pain

Stephanie Benthin – February 4, 2017

HANG OUT (warming up to the topic)

1. Check in to see how everyone's week was.

HEAR (listening to God through Scripture)

2. When you face pain and loss, do you tend to seek out other people or isolate yourself? How do you think that tendency affects your ability to navigate pain and loss well?

3. Think about a time you experienced pain and loss. Did it draw you closer to God or push you away from him?

4. **Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.** How difficult is it for you to see your troubles as small and temporary? Do you think that's a reasonable perspective? Why or why not?

5. Suffering is not an obstacle to you being used by God. It's an opportunity to be used like never before. Do you agree with that statement? Why or why not?

HUDDLE (making it personal and praying together)

6. Have you ever been used by God because of the pain you've experienced? If so, what happened? How did the experience change you?

7. Are you struggling with pain and loss right now? If so, what can you do this week to begin to look beyond your pain, live with earnest expectation, learn to see something new in your normal, and identify scare tactics to manage fear? How can this group support you?

MOVING FORWARD

Suffering is not an obstacle to you being used by God. It's an opportunity to be used like never before. When you face pain, look beyond that pain, live with earnest expectation, learn to see something new in your normal, and employ scare tactics. It will help you see as God sees, and to do as he says.