

### INTO THE BIBLE

"God looked over everything he had made; it was so good, so very good!"

### Genesis 1:31 MSG

"Therefore, since Christ suffered in the flesh [and died for us], arm yourselves [like warriors] with the same purpose [being willing to suffer for doing what is right and pleasing God], because whoever has suffered in the flesh [being like-minded with Christ] is done with [intentional] sin [having stopped pleasing the world],"

#### 1 Peter 4:1 AMP

"He cares for the branches connected to me by lifting and propping up the fruitless branches and pruning every fruitful branch to yield a greater harvest."

#### John 15:2 TPT

"And then, after your brief suffering, the God of all loving grace, who has called you to share in his eternal glory in Christ, will personally and powerfully restore you and make you stronger than ever. Yes, he will set you firmly in place and build you up."

#### 1 Peter 5:10 TPT

"I assure you and most solemnly say to you, unless you repent [that is, change your inner self-your old way of thinking, live changed lives] and become like children [trusting, humble, and forgiving], you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3 AMP



## **SERMON TAKEAWAYS**

3 OPPORTUNITIES FROM SUFFERING

- **1. Opportunity To Be Like Jesus** (1 Pet 4:1)
  - **2. Opportunity To Be Pruned** (Jn 15:2)
  - **3. Opportunity To Be Loved** (1 Pet 5:10)

\*\* If you placed your faith in Jesus, text RESCUE to 94090 \*\*

# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. If someone were to ask you why God allows suffering to happen, what would you say to them and why?
- 2. What are some ways that you try to be like Jesus? Have you ever considered suffering to be more like Jesus? Why or why not?
- 3. What thoughts come to mind when you think about pruning? Do you believe God is, or wants to prune you right now?
- 4. Have you ever allowed God to embrace you, encourage you and love you? Why is it difficult to let God in and allow Him to shape you how He sees fit?
- 5. What has God taught you during COVID-19? Do you plan to do anything different after the pandemic? Why or why not?



## **PRAYER FOCUS**

This week, thank God for creating a world that is very good! Ask God to show you opportunities to be more like Him and give him permission to do some pruning. Then run into His arms and let Him embrace you!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COVID-19** // - During this time of social distancing make sure to stay connected to the church! None of us are as good as all of us! Let's be the Church!

YouTube - Rescue House Church

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/RescueHouseChurch/

**Instagram** - <a href="https://www.instagram.com/rescuehousechurch/">https://www.instagram.com/rescuehousechurch/</a>

