

**Sermon Title: "SUFFERING"**

**Scripture: II Corinthians 4:7-5:7**

### **FOUR STATEMENTS ABOUT SUFFERING**

1. Suffering is the \_\_\_\_\_ (norm) of the Christian life  
-bad things do happen to good people  
-at the center of the Christian faith stands a cross  
-health, wealth, & prosperity preaching is heresy

2. Suffering forces us to \_\_\_\_\_ (depend) on God  
-faith is trusting in God  
-faith is relying on God  
-faith is resting in God

3. Suffering is not something to \_\_\_\_\_ (solve), but rather to  
\_\_\_\_\_ (embrace)  
-I'm not trying to minimize your suffering...  
-I'm trying to maximize your dependance on God  
-you can embrace suffering even without understanding it

4. Suffering is \_\_\_\_\_ (temporary), our salvation is \_\_\_\_\_  
(eternal)  
-weeping may endure for the night...  
-joy comes in the morning  
-our present suffering is not worth comparing to the Glory that awaits us

**CLOSE:** "When we get to Heaven...the suffering of this life will look like one night in a cheap hotel!" (Mother Teresa)