

# HOW CAN A GOOD GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

1 Peter 1:3-9, 13

## THE ISSUE OF EVIL

Evil is a result of free will gone bad.

We recognize evil from God's perspective.

We release evil to God's goodness.

## THE ISSUE OF SUFFERING

*In the face of suffering, see the face of your Savior.*

God is in control.

God cares about you and your suffering.

God can redeem your suffering into something good.

For the Christian, suffering is always temporary.

## Group Discussion Guide

- Have you ever asked the question, "How can a good God allow suffering?"
- What were the circumstances surrounding your question?
- While wrestling with the issue of evil, are you more satisfied with theological answers or pastoral answers?
- In what ways did the message help you answer some of your questions?
- Which 'truth' regarding the issue of suffering do you find most helpful? Explain.
- How have you seen God use evil or suffering for good?
- **Read 1 Peter 4:12-13.** Instead of complaining or mourning our sufferings, what does Peter say our attitude should be
- Why does he say this?
- Does the fact that, "For the Christian, suffering is always temporary" help you in enduring suffering? Why or why not?
- **Read Romans 8:18.** How does the temporary nature of sufferings help Paul endure suffering?
- What will you do differently this week in light of what we have studied?
- **Pray** for for the sufferings of those in your group, your families, and the church.

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