

**Ever Wonder Why?** 

Week two - Pain and Suffering

Revelation 21:1-5, Romans 5:1-5 and 8:18

Bottom line: God does not cause our suffering, but He both uses it for good and, ultimately, promises it will end and be fully redeemed.

- 1. Think about a time you were in pain or suffering. What are some things that helped? What are some things that did not help?
- 2. Before going any further, is there anything going on with anyone in your group that they would like to share? Any pain or suffering? Please take time to share and to pray for each other. (this may be the only thing your group needs to do with this message and time together)
- 3. Read Revelation 21:1-5
  - a. How does knowing there will be no more pain or suffering in the new creation help us now?
  - b. Is it easier to see God as the cause of suffering, or the answer to our suffering? Does the answer depend on whether you're suffering or not in the moment? Why?
- 4. What instances of suffering feel the most difficult for you to accept?
- 5. How have you seen God use suffering for good?
- 6. Have you ever thought about our faith in resurrection as not just eternal life, but also the full restoration of everything that went wrong? Does the thought of restoration change your level of hope?
- 7. How can this group pray for you this week?