

Our **Virtual**

PowerGroup

24/7 LIVING IN AWE OF GOD!
Week 3 Study

Icebreaker

What is your favorite worship song to listen to?

Passage 1 Acts 16:16-24

In this passage Peter and Silas find themselves in prison for freeing a young girl from being oppressed by a demon and her masters. We often expect to be punished for doing the wrong thing, but what happens when we are punished for doing the right thing? Peter and Silas show us that we can worship God despite our circumstances and our situation. In the middle of a prison without knowing their future or what to expect, they begin praying, singing, and worshipping God!

Reflection What do the actions of Paul and Silas say about their devotion to God and their commitment to share the story of Jesus?

How do you respond when you are going through a trial? Do you pull away from God or lean in to God?

How is it possible to worship God regardless of our circumstances?

Passage 2 Job 1:13-22

In this passage we find Job being punished by Satan. This story absolutely destroys the health/wealth theology that tells us when we do the right thing only blessings will happen. Job was a righteous man who experienced extreme suffering. We learn from Job that whatever situation we face, we can still turn to God and lean in and worship.

Reflection What happened to Job in these verses?

What is astounding about Job's response?

How are suffering and worship interrelated?

Passage 3 1 Peter 4:12-19

There are different categories of suffering (persecution, physical ailments, tragedy, etc). Suffering can have a refining effect in the life of the Christian, and thus they are often depicted by fire. We often wish that God would only bless and not refine us, but Peter reminds us in this passage that God can use even suffering for good to refine us and bless us!

Reflection What has been the most effective refining instrument God has used in your life in the past?

What in your life is God using right now to refine you? What is it producing in you?

What two reasons does Peter give us for rejoicing in our sufferings?

How does thinking about suffering this way change the way you feel about or approach suffering for the sake of Christ

Application

One thing is for sure when we are suffering, No one ever wants to suffer alone. This is why God has given us a community of believers who celebrate with those who rejoice and who weep and pray with those who mourn.

Pray for each other in your group and consider who you may know who might be sad or mourning. It might be someone in your family, at your job, or in the church. Who is it that you can reach out to and pray with so they know they are not alone.