

## **Ready to Respond**

### Why Does Allow Evil and Suffering ?

#### **Where is God when life hurts ?**

God is above us

Job 41:10-11 Who then is able to stand against me? Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me.

Job 42:1-6 Then Job replied to the LORD: **2** "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. **3** [You asked,] 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. **4** ["You said,] 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' **5** My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. **6** Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

God is with us

**Hebrews 4:14-16** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. **15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. **16** Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

God is in us

**Romans 8:11,17** And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you. **17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

**John 16:33** In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

God is ahead of us

**Romans 8:18-23** I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. **19** The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. **20** For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the

glorious freedom of the children of God. **22** We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. **23** Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.