

# THE WAY OF JESUS: HARDSHIP

Sermon Series : The Way of Jesus

Speaker : Mike Tatlock

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“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

Jn 16:33; 1 Pt 4:12-13; (see also: Acts 14:21-22; Mk 4:17)  
Rev 21:3-4; Gen 2:15-16 & Gen 3:1 (“You are free” VS “You must not”)

- *Rather than thinking of Eden in terms of perfection, we should think of it in terms of potential. Eden was unspoiled, but it was also unfinished.*

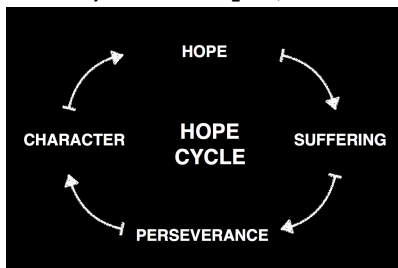
## Seven Paradigms for the Paradox of Pain:

1. **Your Trial is not God's Denial** (Rom 5:2-4)
2. **Hope Builds Our Faith Momentum** (Heb 6:9, 18-19)
3. **Don't mistake rejection for connection** (Mt 13:21; Jn 15:8)

[The following were not covered, but are included for your enjoyment:

4. **God builds in the dark before he reveals in the light** (2 Cor 4:17-18; Rom 8:28; Jas 1:2-4)
5. **While faith brings answers, enduring faith brings the answer with character** (Heb 12:10-11)
6. **What you call a hardship heaven calls a harvest** (2 Cor 12:9)
7. **Your appointment with pain is your appointment with power** (Acts 1:8 NIV) ]

The Cycle of Hope (from Rom 5:2-4):



## QUESTIONS

1. Think about hardships you have experienced in the past/ present. What lies came to the fore as a result of the suffering? (eg. God is punishing me).
2. How might our perspective of pain be affected if we grasped the truths in these Scriptures:
  - Jn 16:33;
  - 1 Pt 4:12-13
  - Acts 14:21-22;
  - Mark 4:17
  - Rev 21:3-4
  - Gen 2:15-16, 3:1
  - Rom 5:2-4
  - Heb 6:9, 18-19
3. Mike shared “The cycle of Hope” from Rom 5:2-4
  - a. Where are you currently in “the cycle of hope”?
  - b. What do you think marks each transition between the stages?
  - c. Consider a trial you experienced in the past, can you see each of the stages as you walked through that difficulty?

(see next page!)

## PRAYER & UPDATES

As we pray for the [permits, parking agreement, and lending process](#), getting the parking agreement in place is coming to the fore as the key area for prayer.

- [Pray for us to receive a written parking agreement](#). When this is in place, the other pieces should follow fairly quickly!
- [Pray for the release of the permits](#). We are so close!
- [Pray for favor with the underwriters for our financing](#). The auditor and lending agency have given us a positive recommendation for lending. It is now a case of matching us to the right underwriter. Pray for divine guidance and favor in this part of the process.