

# How to Meet with God in Suffering

Pastor Mike Dederera

## I. Understand the reason \_\_\_\_\_ suffer.

1. We suffer as a result of living in a \_\_\_\_\_ of sin and death.

**Romans 6:23 (NIV)** For the wages of sin is death

2. We suffer as a result of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Galatians 6:7-8 (NIV)** A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction....

3. We suffer as a result of \_\_\_\_\_ sin.

**Psalms 59:2-4 (NIV)** Deliver me from evildoers and save me from bloodthirsty men. <sup>3</sup> See how they lie in wait for me! Fierce men conspire against me for no offense or sin of mine, O LORD. <sup>4</sup> I have done no wrong, yet they are ready to attack me.

4. We suffer because \_\_\_\_\_ us.

**Hebrews 12:5-6 (ESV)** And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup> For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

## II. Understand the reason \_\_\_\_\_ suffered

5. God used suffering to \_\_\_\_\_ the blade of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Corinthians 2:6-8 (NIV)** We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup> No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

<sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

6. God uses suffering to bring us to the \_\_\_\_\_ that can be reached.

**Hebrews 11:35-38 (NIV)** Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated-- <sup>38</sup> the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. <sup>35</sup> Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection.

7. God uses suffering to make us the \_\_\_\_\_ people  
imaginable in a world that \_\_\_\_\_ God.

**1 Peter 5:10 (NIV)** And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

### III. Embrace God's \_\_\_\_\_ love in suffering

8. The only way to get to get to love God for Himself is to suffer and \_\_\_\_\_ the reason \_\_\_\_\_.

**Job 1:9-12 (NIV)** "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied.

<sup>10</sup> "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

9. God desires to \_\_\_\_\_ the *quid pro quo* \_\_\_\_\_

people have with God so the world will see \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Quid – \_\_\_\_\_ will do \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Pro – Therefore,

c. Quo – \_\_\_\_\_ will do \_\_\_\_\_.

10. God doesn't make people into greatness by giving them \_\_\_\_\_, He makes people into greatness by giving people \_\_\_\_\_.

#### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ God when you suffer

11. A God-sized-God has God-sized \_\_\_\_\_.

**Job 38:2 (NIV)** "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?"

**Job 38:32-41 (NIV)** Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs? <sup>34</sup> "Can you raise your voice to the clouds and cover yourself with a flood of water? <sup>35</sup> Do you send the lightning bolts on their way? Do they report to you, 'Here we are'?"

<sup>39</sup> "Do you hunt the prey for the lioness and satisfy the hunger of the lions <sup>40</sup> when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in a thicket?"

<sup>41</sup> Who provides food for the raven when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?"

12. A God-sized-God has a God-sized \_\_\_\_\_.

**Job 37:15-16 (NIV)** Do you know how God controls the clouds and makes his lightning flash? Do you know how the clouds hang poised, those wonders of him who is perfect in knowledge?

**Job 38:5-6 (NIV)** Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it?

<sup>6</sup> On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—

13. A God-sized-God has a God-sized \_\_\_\_\_.

**Job 40:2 (NIV)** "Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!"

14. A God-sized-God is \_\_\_\_\_ in suffering.

**Job 42:1-5 (NIV)** Then Job replied to the LORD: <sup>2</sup> "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. <sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' <sup>5</sup> My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

**V. Look for answers \_\_\_\_\_ than your question \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Job 42:10 (ESV)** And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends. And the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

a. What is God doing in \_\_\_\_\_?

b. What is God doing in \_\_\_\_\_?

c. What is God doing in the \_\_\_\_\_?

d. What is God doing in the \_\_\_\_\_?

e. What is God doing in \_\_\_\_\_?