

WORD OF GRACE

Part 15: Groaning | Text: Romans 8:17-27

Romans 8:17

Are you telling me that I have to suffer if I am going to be a Christian? _____

Suffering: Enduring undesirable pain and experiences and to undergo distress and pressure.

2 Corinthians 4:10 | Mark 8:31 | 2 Corinthians 12:9, 10 | Hebrews 10:32-36
1 Peter 4:16 | 1 Peter 5:10 (AMP) | John 16:33 | 2 Thessalonians 1:4-8

Acts 5:41 (NLT) The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV) Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. (17) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (18) So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Philippians 1:19, 20 (NLT) For I know that as you pray for me and as the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will all turn out for my deliverance. (20) For I live in eager expectation and hope that I will never do anything that causes me shame, but that I will always be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past, and that my life will always honor Christ, whether I live or I die.

Romans 8:18-22

The earth's upheavals show it desires to move back into the _____ **creation.**

Genesis 3:17-19 | Luke 19:40 | Isaiah 44:22, 23 | Isaiah 55:12

Isaiah 55:12 (NLT) You will live in joy and peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands!

Luke 19:40 (NLT) He replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!"

Romans 8:23-25

The deposit of the Holy Spirit on the inside of us will keep us _____ **on the soon return of our Lord.**

2 Corinthians 1:22 | Luke 21:19 | Romans 12:12 | Hebrews 10:35, 36
Philippians 4:10-13 | 2 Corinthians 5:2-5, 9

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Romans 8:23-25 (cont'd.)

2 Thessalonians 3:5 (NKJV) Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

Ephesians 1:13, 14 (NLT) And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. (14) The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us everything he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. This is just one more reason for us to praise our glorious God.

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Romans 8:26, 27

The Holy Spirit is _____ us groan in line with the will of God.

Hebrews 2:18 | Hebrews 13:6 | Isaiah 41:10 | Jude 1:20

1 Thessalonians 5:17 | Revelation 5:8 | Revelation 8:3

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT) Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

Hebrews 4:15, 16 (NLT) This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin. (16) So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it.

Hebrews 7:25 (NKJV) Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them.

Prayer Focus

Remember to pray for one home missionary (or organization) and one foreign missionary (also the country).

D12 Group Discussion Questions

1. Read the scriptures on suffering and discuss.
2. Find New Testament examples (like the disciples and Paul) and discuss.
3. Discuss the "three groans" and make application to your own life.

Romans 8:23-25 (cont'd.)

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