



EVERY PAIN HAS A PURPOSE AND AN END

This week, we learned another way to live through a bad day by observing how Jesus handled His worst day. After hours of suffering on the cross, Jesus declared, "It is finished." While Jesus Himself was not finished, His work on the earth was complete when He defeated the enemy once and for all through His death on the cross. As He recognized His most difficult trial had come to a victorious close, Jesus reminded us that our struggles have purpose and our pain has an end. Whatever your present suffering may be, you can rest assured that it will come to an end and that good will come from it. There may be times when we, like Job, question God and find it difficult to trust Him in the midst of our struggles or feel like He is far away and doesn't answer when we call to Him. The truth is, if we come to truly know God, we will learn to trust Him because He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. When God is with us, we can face whatever is against us. As we spend time in His presence, we learn that He loves us, He wants the best for us, He has a plan for us, and He will bring us through. God has plans to prosper us - to give us a hope and a future.

Main Lesson: There is purpose and end for every pain, just learn to hold on to the right hand, and stand on the right ground.

Read **Job 42:1-5** and **John 19:30-37**.

Discussion Questions

- Summarize the pain Job had to go through alone, and then read Job 23:1-10.
- Describe a time in your life when you could relate to Job - a time when you questioned God or felt like He was ignoring your prayers in a season of pain. What did you learn through this difficult time?
- Talk about the truth that God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. How does this truth shape your view of Him? How can this truth help you withstand a season of pain?
- Share a challenging season you've been through that taught you one of the following truths: God loves you, He wants the best for you, He has a plan for you, and He will always bring you through. Since that time, how has this truth impacted your perspective in the face of other challenges?
- The pain and death Jesus went through had the most profound spiritual purpose and implication for us. Discuss what you know about the reason for Christ's suffering and death. <https://billygraham.org/story/7-reasons-christ-suffered-and-died/>

Prayer Focus Praise God for being all-powerful, all-knowing and ever-present. Thank Him for the following truths and declare them out loud: God loves you, and through His love, you can endure any season. God wants the best for you, and you have victory in and through Him. God has a plan to prosper you and not to harm you. He gives you hope and a future.

Next Steps God has a plan for you. Be sure to discover your God-given gifts and find out how you can make a difference in the lives of others and serve in our church. As you serve others in your area of gifting, you will find purpose in your pain.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

1. Baptism Bash (April 24th).
2. Easter Sunday (bring friends who don't know Jesus yet!)