



Today ... "What's the point to ..."

What does your story of suffering look like?

Ancient understanding of calamity ...

Jesus shifts our understanding of suffering to ....

Examples of the shift:

John 5 ...

John 9 ...

It's really \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom vs. \_\_\_\_\_ Kingdom

The vehicle used to make this shift is found in our \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Timothy 6:17 tells me ...

Lamentations 3:19-25 tells me ...

### Encounter these verses today:

*circle words that you identify with, underline phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side*

#### Romans 8:18, 28, 38-39 NIV

<sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### 1 Timothy 6:17 NIV

<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

#### Lamentations 3:19-25 NIV

<sup>19</sup> I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. <sup>20</sup> I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. <sup>21</sup> Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup> Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. <sup>23</sup> They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." <sup>25</sup> The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;

#### Digging Deeper this week ...

*If you would like to take today's teaching to the next level, then start digging!*

*Ask yourself the following questions ...*

- 1) What has been your greatest moment of suffering/disappointment?
- 2) What was your response initially? Could you see God's hand at work in it?

*Read through some of the Psalms (randomly) in your personal time.*

- 3) What do you notice about the pleads of help and the expressions of great joy?

*Read Romans 8:18-39 in your personal time.*

- 4) What does it mean in your words that "all things work for the good"?
- 5) How does placing your hope in God's future Kingdom, express itself in your present reality?

