



## Part 6: Why Is There Suffering?

### Romans Review:

#### Chapter 1 - We have \_\_\_\_\_

*"For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last..." Romans 1:17*

#### Chapter 2 - We have \_\_\_\_\_

*"...God's kindness leads you towards repentance." Romans 2:4*

#### Chapter 3 - We have \_\_\_\_\_

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace..." Romans 3:23-24a*

#### Chapter 4 - We have \_\_\_\_\_

*"...the one who does not work but trusts God, who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness." Romans 4:5*

### Today, We will look at ROMANS 5:

#### 1. We have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

*"Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." Romans 5:1-2*

#### 2. We have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

*"We rejoice in the hope of the Glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings..." Romans 5:2*

#### 3. We have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

*"God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given to us." Romans 5:5*

Note: We also have a clear demonstration of God's Love.

*"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8*

## Daily Meditations

Here's a chance to "take it home": Spend a few minutes every day reading Scripture, praying, and answering thought-provoking questions about this weekend's topic!

**This week's memory verses:** *"Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." Rom. 5:3-5*

### Monday

Look back over Romans 5 and your notes from last weekend. What stood out to you from the passage and the sermon? Why?

How has studying the first four chapters of Romans impacted your view of Romans 5?

Write down one thing you learned from last weekend and how you will apply it to your life:

*Thank God today for His mercy and grace towards you. Thank Him for the opportunity to study the Bible. Ask to help you apply what you learn to your daily life and impact your world.*

### Tuesday

Read Romans 5:1-2 over several times and meditate on these verses.

Describe one of your favorite mental pictures of peace.

According to verse 1, how are you able to experience peace with God?

How is peace with God different from peace of mind?

What does it mean to you to stand in grace (vs. 2)?

*Thank God today for the peace you have with Him through Jesus. Thank Him for His grace to live each day. Ask Him to give you increasing faith to rest in Him and His peace.*

TLC message by Pastor Dave Hicks, May 4 & 5, 2002

## **Wednesday**

Read Romans 5:3-5. It's great fun to read Romans 5:1-2 and revel in God's peace and grace. Then verses 3-5 start talking about suffering - no one's favorite topic!

List the sequence in verses 3-5 that begins with suffering and ends with hope:

Recall a time when you have seen this sequence in your life.

What is the foundation of your hope (vs. 5)? How does that strengthen your hope?

What makes it most difficult for you to have hope in the midst of suffering?

Think about your life right now. Is there an area in your life where you need to stop focusing on the suffering and start focusing on the hope in Christ? Commit that to God today.

*Thank God today that though there is suffering in life there is also hope. Ask Him to help you embrace and rest in His hope. Pray that as you encounter suffering in life you will allow it to produce perseverance, character and hope in you.*

## **Thursday**

Read Romans 5:6-11. Pick a phrase or sentence in this section that you particularly appreciate. Why are these words significant to you?

Describe the work of Christ on your behalf in these verses.

Verses 10 and 11 speak about being reconciled to God. What does this mean to you? How does it help you go through times of suffering?

*Thank God today for the peace you have with Him through Jesus. Thank Him for His grace to live each day. Ask Him to give you increasing faith to rest in Him and His peace.*

## **Friday**

Read Romans 5:12-21. List the impact Adam and Jesus Christ have on the human race:

Adam:

Jesus Christ:

In what ways were the acts of Jesus and Adam similar (vs. 18-19)?

Reread verse 21. What does the sin in this world produce? What does the grace of God produce?

How can knowing you are forgiven and righteous through Jesus Christ affect your attitudes and actions when you encounter suffering in life?

*Thank God today for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Thank Him for conquering the ultimate suffering of sin and death. Ask Him to help you live your life as a forgiven and righteous child of God. Ask for the grace to endure suffering and reflect God's hope to those around you.*

## **Saturday**

*Today, polish the memory verse at the top of the previous page, and read Romans 6 in preparation for the weekend services. Thank God for His love and mercy for you. Thank Him for the hope you have even in life's troubles. Ask Him to prepare your heart for worship and teaching this weekend. Pray for services that impact lives!*