

Rooted Group Notes

Week 4 || Where is God in the Midst of Suffering?

INTRODUCTION

This week we will spend time sharing about our prayer experience last week as well as discuss the trust it takes to surrender to God and his perfect plans. We will also spend time discussing the impact of suffering in our own lives and the world.

CONVERSATION STARTERS (5 minutes)

1. Have the person you asked last week share their story of saying Yes to Jesus and how they ended up in this group (2-3 minutes). Who would like to share their story during group next week?
2. When you were a kid, did your parents ever make you give up something that was yours, and you knew it was not fair, but had to do it anyway?

PRAYER EXPERIENCE DEBRIEF (15 minutes)

Take some time to discuss your Individual Prayer Experiences.

- Share how you heard God's voice, what this focused prayer time meant to you, and how it affected you.
- Share how the fasting time prepared you and whether your prayer time felt more intense from the discipline.
- Share any other relevant feelings or revelations from God during this time in fasting and prayer and if you want to continue to add this to your life on a more regular basis.

SERMON NOTES REVIEW (10 minutes)

Looking back at your message notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#) (5 minutes)

GROUP DISCUSSION (45 minutes)

1. In times of despair or feeling alone, what were your feelings about your situation and about God?
2. How has suffering shaped you?
3. When have you had to deeply trust your faith in a situation where you did not know the outcome?
4. Read [Philippians 4:6-7](#). How have you experienced God's peace that passes understanding in your life?
5. What is a care or worry in your life you need to give to God today?
6. Where do you currently see God working in your circumstances?

7. What would it take to completely surrender your life to God?

PRAYER (5 minutes)

Close your group time in prayer. You can use your own words or these words:
God, thank you for this time together. Thank you for your presence in the midst of suffering. For each person in this group, we pray that you would help us surrender the areas of our lives we need to surrender, that we come to know you more as we experience hardship, and that through these times of surrendering to you, we would become more like you. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)

- In the sermon this weekend and our group next week, we will discuss strongholds in our lives. **See pages 107-109 in your Rooted book for a list of common strongholds. You may want to review these pages prior to your group meeting next week.*
- During our group discussion next week, we will meet by gender during our Group Discussion time to discuss the strongholds in our lives and how to find freedom. This will be a powerful, sensitive, and moving conversation that will require our utmost confidentiality.
- Ask someone to share their story of saying Yes to Jesus and how they ended up in this group in 2-3 minutes at the beginning of group next week.
- Be prepared for your daily devotionals to take more of your time next week as you work through strongholds in your life. Spend more time in prayer with God next week as well as you seek His wisdom and power over your strongholds.
- [Sign up for a serve experience.](#)
- Remember to do your “Daily Response” prompts each day found in your Rooted Book and at the end of each Daily Devotional. If you haven’t signed up for the Sun Valley Daily Devos, do so today! Daily.sv.cc