GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

February 6, 2022

DOES THE CHURCH CARE?
Suffering
2 Corinthians 1:3-11
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NOTES

Looking back at your notes from this week's message, was there anything you heard for the first time, stuck with you, challenged or confused you?

What is the one important thing you will take away from this weekend's message or our community group discussion? Is there any challenge, difficulty or praise that you would like to share with the group for prayer?

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CROSSROADS CHURCH

1. Open with prayer. (2-5 min)
2. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11.
3. Discuss these questions with your group. (20-45 min)

MY STORY | Vulnerability

Who can you count on to stand by your side, no matter what happens? Who trusts you this deeply? (7-10 min)

DIGGING DEEPER | Practical Biblical Application

For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. (2 Corinthians 1:5)

What is it about sharing everything with a friend, good times & bad, that strengthens your relationship with that person?

How can that sort of thing draw you closer to Jesus?

GROWING TOGETHER | Spiritual Friendship

For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. (2 Corinthians 1:8)

Why is it important to be brutally honest about how things are going—namely sharing those things with people you trust, and who want to know what's going on with you?

Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. (2 Corinthians 1:9)

What is it about suffering that increases our dependence on God, and can deepen our relationships with others?

LIVING IN 4D | Missional Living

Find someone who trusts you, and invite that person to fill you in on how things are really going with him or her. Like a Stephen Minister, practice active listening, ask probing questions, and resist giving advice.