

john 15:4
A b i d e in **ME**



Bible studies for disciples who make disciples

Loudonville Community Church

Volume 6 - Number 16
The week of March 14, 2021

Christ in You: *Enjoying Our Union with Christ*

The Road We Must Travel

Multiple Texts

STUDY NOTE

Suffering is something everyone experiences but no one enjoys. It can appear as an unwanted and uninvited intruder that threatens to steal our joy and ruin our life. Suffering is universal – all people, of all faiths, experience some form of suffering, yet for the Christian, suffering is unique.

It is unique because of our union with Christ. Since we are “In Him” and He is “In us,” we don’t ever suffer alone. We suffer with Christ, we may suffer for Christ, and we suffer in Christ.

READ John 15:18, 20

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.”

1. Jesus said a servant is not greater than his master. What did He mean by that?

2. What has that principle looked like in your life?

READ John 16:33

“In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

3. Persecute means to harass, mistreat, go after with hostility. Have you felt persecuted? Why or why not?

4. If we were to experience increased persecution for our faith- how would it impact us?

5. How would us change us?

6. Would the church be stronger or weaker?

READ 1 Peter 4:12-13

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

2 Corinthians 1:5

For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

Romans 8: 16-17

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory

7. Have you been surprised at the “fiery trials” that you have experienced?

8. How can we rejoice in the midst of suffering?

9. What does it mean to you to “participate in the sufferings of Christ”?

10. What is the connection between suffering now and experiencing glory later?

READ Colossians 1:24 (*The Message*)

“I want you to know how glad I am that it’s me sitting here in this jail and not you. There’s a lot of suffering to be entered into in this world—the kind of suffering Christ takes on. I welcome the chance to take my share in the church’s part of that suffering.”

11. Do you agree with Eugene Peterson’s rendition of Col.1:24- that “There’s a lot of suffering to be entered into in this world—the kind of suffering Christ takes on.” Why or why not?

12. What does it mean or look like to “take our share” in that suffering?

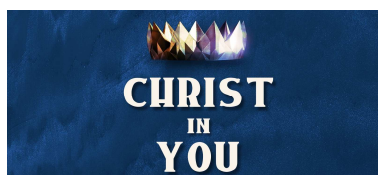
READ 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)

There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

13. Can you think of a time when you felt your faith was tested by trials?

14. What purifying effect did it have?

15. Did your faith become stronger or weaker for having gone through that trial? Why is that?



THE
BIBLE RECAP
BY D-GROUP

Sunday, March 14 thru Saturday, March 20, 2021

Deuteronomy 8-10; Deut. 11-13; Deut. 14-16;
Deut. 17-20; Deut. 21-23; Deut. 24-27; Deut. 28-29