

***Life in the Spirit: Help with Suffering, Part 3***  
***Romans 8:18-27***

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**Getting Started**

- ❖ Has there been a time in your life where suffering drastically affected your spiritual life? If so, describe your experience--- the good, the bad and the ugly!
- ❖ **Opening Prayer Time:** This week, let's pray specifically for the children and youth of our church as they come to grips with losing key leaders in their lives.

**Digging Deeper**

- ❖ **Read and discuss Romans 8:22-27.**
  - Verse 22 and 23 opens with the idea of “groaning” and the “firstfruits of the Spirit”. **Read 2 Cor. 5:1-5.** How does this passage help us interpret these verses in Romans 8?
  - How do we experience the “firstfruits of the Spirit”? Has there been a time where you sensed the Holy Spirit ministering to you in a difficult situation? Describe to your group what this was like for you.
  - Our groanings and “adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies” will be fully addressed at the Second Coming of Christ.
    - **Read 1John 3:1-2 & 1 Cor. 15:51-55.** What do these passages teach us about this future hope?
    - Do you think this is something that will occur in your lifetime or is way in the future?
    - Do you look forward to this day or are you filled with other emotions? What are they?
  - In Romans 8:26-27, the Apostle speaks about the Holy Spirit helping us in our weakness. Jerry identified this weakness as the difficulty we have in prayer during suffering. Of the three ways the Holy Spirit helps us in prayer that Jerry taught us, which resonated with you the most:
    - How to Pray (getting us to the point where we want to and actually can pray)
    - What to Pray For (Deliverance, Insight, Power, Patience, etc)
    - When we don't know what to say? (Sometimes we are just overwhelmed.)

(Over)

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❖ **Applying this sermon to Our Lives**

- What is a trial that you are experiencing that calls for patience as a response? How can you have hope in the midst of patience? What particular promises can you put your hope in?
- Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Discuss your answers.  
“Life’s greatest problems are not so much caused by our tragic circumstance as they are by our improper response to those circumstances.”

**Think About It!**

**[Sometimes] *We find ourselves brought to silence by the very intensity of our longings.*** (E.F. Kevan)

**Praying Together**

This week pray share your burdens with one another and pray for one another.

(Note: In this year’s study of Romans, our study questions are being inspired by or derived from books, commentaries and bible studies authored by: Pastors Matt Smith, Max Lucado, John MacArthur, R.C. Sproul, Jack Hayford and Tim Keller.)

## WORSHIP RESOURCE

February 16, 2020 | Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

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### WORSHIP SONGS

#### THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

**Words by Phil Wickham and Jeremy Riddle, 2013**

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness, whose love is mighty and so much stronger? The King of glory, the King above all kings. Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder, who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder? The King of glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace; this is unfailing love that you would take my place, that you would bear my cross. You laid down your life that I would be set free. Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.*

Who brings the chaos back into order, who makes the orphan a son and daughter? The King of glory, the King of glory. Who rules the nations with truth and justice, shines like the sun in all of its brilliance? The King of glory, the King above all kings.

#### DEATH WAS ARRESTED

**Words and Music by Brandon Coker, Adam Kersh, Paul Taylor Smith and Heath Balltzglier, 2015**

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin; lost without hope with no place to begin. Your love made a way to let mercy come in when death was arrested and my life began.

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains. My orphan heart was given a name. My mourning grew quiet, my feet rose to dance when death was arrested and my life began.

*Oh, Your grace so free washes over me. You have made me new, now life begins in You. It's your endless love pour down on us. You have made us new, now life begins with You.*

Released from my chains, I'm a prisoner no more. My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore. He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend, when death was arrested and my life began.

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross; darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost. But, then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand, that's when death was arrested and my life began.

#### COME THOU FOUNT

**Words by Robert Robinson, 1758 / Music by Asahel Nettleton, 1825**

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise His name I'm fixed upon it, name of God's unchanging love.

Hither to Thy love has blessed me; Thou hast brought me to this place; I know Thy hand will bring me safely home by Thy good grace. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God. He, to rescue me from danger, bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.

Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

### SPIRIT OF LIFE

**Words and Music by Lydia Sooter, 2019**

Your body was broken; to give me life. The Spirit has spoken; Jesus is mine. The Father in heaven; the Son at His side. Dwelling within me; the Spirit of life.

You are calling me to Your arms. You are calling me to Your heart.

*Spirit, You are my hope when I am lost; I'm never alone.*

*Spirit, You are my strength when I am weak; You're faithful again.*

I wandered in darkness; I hid from the light. But God in His mercy called me His child. Jesus is for me; gracious and kind. Dwelling within me; the Spirit of life.

Spirit of glory, Spirit of Christ. Jesus is for me, now I am alive. Spirit of freedom, Spirit of God. Hope of the ages, the hope of my heart. Spirit of power, Spirit of truth. Spirit of God, I surrender to You.

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### DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 19; Genesis 29:20-35; 1 Tim. 3:14-4:10; Mark 10:23-31

MONDAY | Ps. 112; Genesis 30:1-24; 1 John 1:1-10; John 9:1-17

TUESDAY | Ps. 123; Genesis 31:1-24; 1 John 2:1-11; John 9:18-41

WEDNESDAY | Ps. 15; Genesis 31:25-50; 1 John 2:12-17; John 10:1-8

THURSDAY | Ps. 36; Gen. 32:3-21; 1 John 2:18-29; John 10:19-30

FRIDAY | Ps. 148; Genesis 32:22-33:17; 1 John 3:1-10; John 10:31-42

SATURDAY | Ps. 56; Genesis 35:1-20; 1 John 3:11-18; John 11:1-16

### PRAYER OF RENEWAL | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

Loving God,  
to turn away from you is to fall,  
to turn toward you is to rise,  
and to stand before you is to abide forever.  
Grant us, O God, in all our duties your help;  
in all our uncertainties your guidance;  
in all our dangers your protection;  
and in all our sorrows your peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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