



When In Rome | Hopeful Suffering

09.17.23

START TALKING | (Find a conversation starter for your group)

How would you rate your week on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the best)?

- Why did you rate it the way you did?
 - If comfortable, share one high and one low.
 - Where have you seen God at work in and around you this week?

START EXPLORING | (Read the Bible)

Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, 13-18.

- What perspective and encouragement does Paul provide regarding times of hardship and suffering?

START SHARING | (Choose a question to create openness)

John shared that proper perspective and encouragement are essential when it comes to times of suffering.

- Are there times in your past when having a change in perspective or a word of encouragement has served you during hardship?
 - If so, please share.
- What perspective or encouragement do you need to be reminded of today?

Start Praying. (Be bold and pray with power)

The most powerful prayer we can pray as Christians is "Come Holy Spirit."

- Where do you need the Holy Spirit to come today, and what do you need the Spirit to provide?
 - Be transparent and vulnerable, trusting that God hears and has the power to intervene as we call on His Name.
- Consider praying that God would send someone this week to serve as an agent of encouragement in your life. This is a prayer God always answers!

Start Doing. (Commit to a step, and live it out this week)

If you are in hardship or suffering, take time this week to meditate on God's Word. Take time to sit quietly before God and ask the Spirit to bring God's perspective and encouragement to your circumstances.

Ask God to send you as an agent of encouragement into someone else's life this week who needs a proper perspective or encouragement for the suffering they are walking through.