

If God is so good, why is there so much suffering in the world?





#1

The Cause of Suffering - Sin



To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' ...

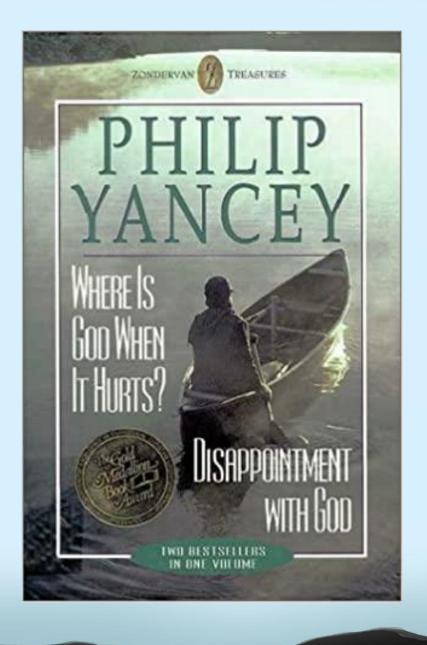
- Genesis 3:17



"Cursed is the ground because of you; through <u>painful toil</u> you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce <u>thorns</u> and <u>thistles</u> for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

- Genesis 3:17-18





Migrants, Sharecroppers, Mountaineers Volume II of Children of Crisis

GOD'S MERCY

#2

The <u>Cure</u> of Suffering – the <u>Cross</u>



"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they **hurled** their **insults** at him, he did not retaliate; when he **suffered**, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

- 1 Peter 2:22-23



Excruciating – "out of crucifixion"



"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." - 1 Peter 2:24 #3

A New <u>Perspective</u> of Suffering – God's Mercy



To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

- 1 Peter 2:21



We focus not on the **pain** ... but on God's **plan**

"There is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still."

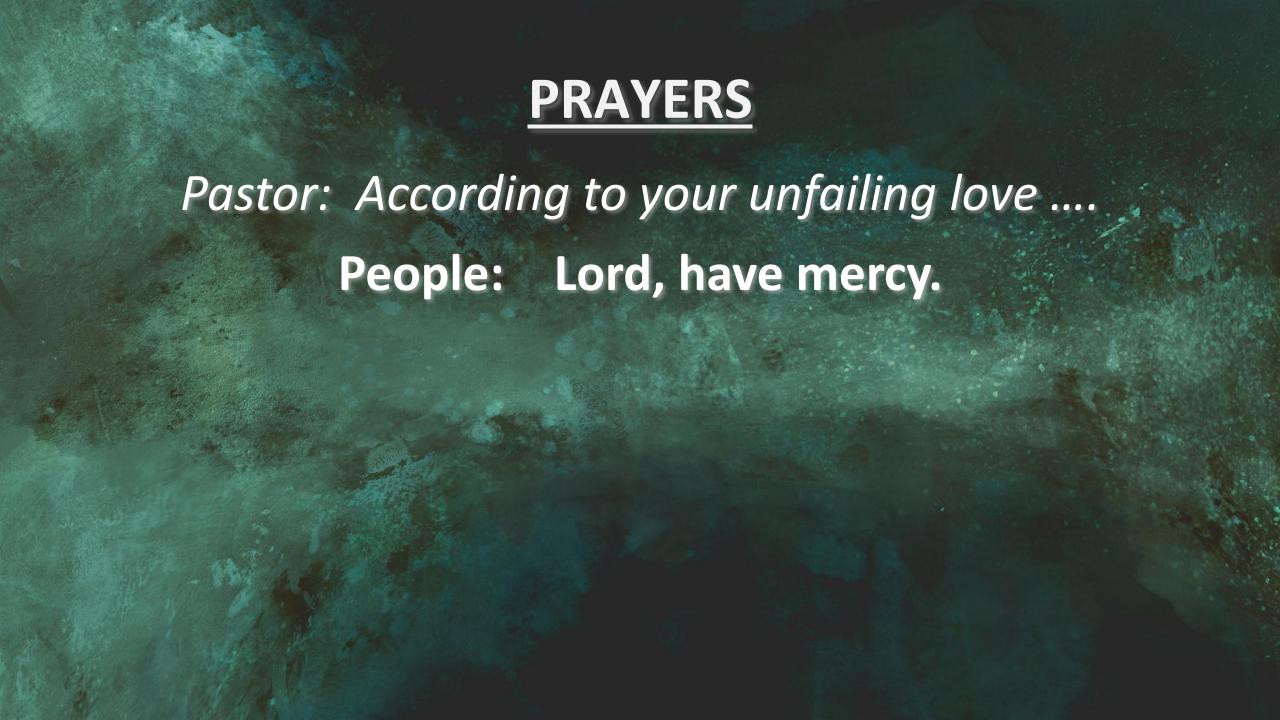
- Betsie/Corrie ten Boom



Life is **painful** but God's mercy is even more **powerful**

"By his wounds you have been **healed**" - 1 Peter 2:24





PRAYERS

Pastor: When we encounter our own death and the terror that it brings, restore us with your resurrection power so that we might live eternally in your glory.

People: Lord, grant me your grace to trust you in times of suffering and sorrow.

PRAYERS

Pastor: All these things we pray in the name of Jesus the Suffering Servant.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the merciful God, who suffered the pain of the cross for you and your salvation, strengthen you to trust him through hardship according to his good and gracious will, through Jesus Christ to whom be the glory forever.

People: Amen.



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