

## **May 5, 2024 - Doubt & Deconstruction - Why Does God Allow Evil & Suffering?**

Feel free to **PICK AND CHOOSE** some of the questions below to engage with as a group. Before you leave, be sure to spend some time going over the **Top 3** things your group members need to know.

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### **Connect:**

Robert began this sermon with some commentary around the often long list of unwanted side-effects that come with most prescription drugs.

Why do you think that people have such a hard time handling “life’s harmful side-effects?”

### **Engage:**

#### **Read Job 5:6-7 & Job 6:2-4**

If trouble is inevitable in life, then why are we surprised when we encounter difficulties?

“There is not just a way things are. There is a way they are supposed to be.”

How can the hope that things are supposed to be better help us to grapple with the way things are today?

We took a look at two questions on Sunday:

1. *“Why didn’t God create a world without pain and suffering?”*

What response do you have for this question?

2. *“If God knew we would sin, why did He make us?”*

#### **Read Romans 11:33**

Robert outlined 4 Reason for Suffering

1. Our own Sin
2. The sins of Others
3. We have an Enemy
4. The Brokenness of our World (Romans 8:22)

Which of these reasons stands out the most to you? Why?

“There is suffering from something and suffering with someone.”

#### **Read Hebrew 4:15-16**

How does having someone join you in your suffering help you walk through your pain?

When is a time in your life that God has used others to aid you in your suffering?

#### **Read Romans 8:16-18 & 2 Corinthians 4:16-17**

“There is suffering unexplained yet redeemed.”

“There are some things that you can learn only from the pathway to pain.”

What is something God has shown you that you know you wouldn’t have gained without experiencing pain, hardship, and suffering?

### **Apply:**

“The writers of scripture write protesting suffering to God.”

What type of comfort and confidence can we gain when we see godly people ask the same questions that we do?

In what ways can showing others our own struggle to understand suffering comfort to them?

**Top 3:**

**Low Country Boil: Wednesday, May 8, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Join us on the F/C Front Lawn for an evening of pinching tails, community fun, and raising money for our summer mission trips. The cost is \$15 for crawfish, corn, and potatoes and \$7 for chicken tenders and chips. At the event, each mission trip team will have ways for you to support and encourage them as they prepare for their trip. For details and tickets, sign up at [fondrenchurch.com/events](http://fondrenchurch.com/events).

**Pancakes & Pastors (A Kids Event): Thursday, May 30, 10 - 11 AM**

Have you ever wanted to ask the F/C staff questions about the Bible, faith, God, and anything else? Well, now is the time to ask! Come to Pancakes & Pastors - grab a pancake and ask your questions on May 30th.

**Kids Camp: July 16 - 19**

Kids Camp is a summertime camp held at Fondren Church for kids ranging age from 6 weeks old to completed 5th graders. Kids will be challenged as they discover that God's truth never changes, that everyone needs Jesus, and learn how to speak the truth in love! Adventure awaits! Campers can sign up for a discounted price of \$9 May 5th only.