



Walking with God through Pain and Suffering Week 2

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT:

- 1- Read the book each week!
- 2- The book serves as the guideline for all convos
- 3- There are other people/voices in the room- listen to them!
 - 4- Let the book read you
- 5- Submit it all to Scripture and the Spirit in each of us
- 6- What happens in WWGTPS stays in WWGTPS

Week 1

WORLD POPULATION		
7,924,539,148	Current World Population	[+]
12,534,569	Births this year	[+]
253,051	Births today	[+]
5,262,313	Deaths this year	
106,237	Deaths today	
7,272,257	Net population growth this year	[+]
146,814	Net population growth today	

February 2, 2022

worldometers.com

Week 1

Keller settles on the great Western cultural engine of Secularism as he discusses many of our current struggles in dealing with pain and suffering.

What is Secularism?

Week 1

-Pg. 5; *“...I learned that just as many find God through affliction and suffering.”*

Which do you find to be more common?

What biblical examples can you think of for both responses?

Do you have any examples from your own life?

Week 1

-Pg. 14; *“All human beings are driven by ‘an inner compulsion to understand the world as a meaningful cosmos and to take a position toward it.’”*

What does that mean?

How do we tend to do that and can you think of any examples of this over the last 2 years?

Week 1

In your small groups, discuss:

Questions 3, 5, 6, 7 and 10

Week 1

#12 from the study guide: “Christianity offers a different perspective on suffering that contradicts those of the philosophers (pp. 57-59).

Are there any you struggle to understand and apply?

Are there any that are helpful?

What are some of the elements of Christian theology that potentially makes suffering more difficult?

Week 1

- 1- Suffering is necessary to know Christ and his comforts
- 2-God uses everything for his good purposes
- 3-There is an unseen, higher reality to all we experience
- 4-The righteous often suffer more than others (reciprocity or Christian Karma)
- 5-God is the Ultimate Good
- 6-God is powerful enough to do away with pain and suffering but has chosen otherwise

Week 1

Q and A??

Homework week 2/February 16:

Chapters 3 & 4; Study Guide

Week 1

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Week 1

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Week 1

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:18-39

Week 1

Q and A??

Homework week 2/February 16:

Chapters 3 & 4; Study Guide