

# Supreme



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November 15, 2020  
Week 3 – Supreme in our Suffering

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## **Introduction:**

- Week 1 Review: Jesus supreme through the Gospel
- Week 2 Review: Jesus supreme as the God-man

Colossians 1:24

## **How is Christ Supreme Through our Suffering?**

1. Sometimes our suffering brings \_\_\_\_\_ for someone else (1:25-27)
2. Sometimes our suffering is used by God for our \_\_\_\_\_ (1:28-2:1)
3. Sometimes our suffering can be redemptive when we choose to \_\_\_\_\_ in the growth of others (2:2-5)

## **Sufficient Grace, Strength in Weakness**

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

## QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

### Personal Life:

1. Suffering is never our first choice in life, and yet paradoxically, it is through suffering that we often experience growth in our relationship with God and others. Share about a moment or season of suffering in your life that God used to bring growth or maturity, even though He didn't cause it...

### Ponderings:

2. We would probably all agree that Paul and the other Apostles suffered more for their faith than American Christians. How have the stories of Scripture inspired or empowered you to see your own suffering through a lens of redemption? Try to give specific examples...
3. Paul said, "I rejoice IN what I am suffering..." He did not say "I am happy THAT I am suffering." What's the difference and why does it matter?
4. Have you ever experienced a time when your suffering became a source of deliverance for someone else? If so, share with your group...
5. In times of suffering, the Holy Spirit can work powerfully as we choose to delight in the growth and blessing of others. How does this work, and why is it often true? Discuss...

### Promptings:

6. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 as a group.

Do you feel safe and trustful enough with your Life Group to "boast in your weaknesses?"

Why is transparency in relationships directly proportionate to the degree we experience and extend grace? Discuss...

How can you nurture a greater degree of trust and safety in your Christ-centered relationships? How does this safety and trust open more doors of ministry to people who are suffering? How does trusting others with your own vulnerability free you from living in emotional isolation when you're suffering? Discuss...