

It's Worth the Suffering

April 23 2017

Welcome to the Sunday after Easter with our return to II Corinthians. Today brings out the real deal, not just fair weather believers. It is the same with our topic this morning.

II Corinthians 11:16-33

- 1) Boasting to get attention
- 2) Boasting in the external
- 3) Boasting in suffering
- 4) Boasting in the Lord

Some boast to draw attention and announce their accomplishments; but not Paul, he emphasizes his weakness and God's greatness.

Why Suffering?

- * It pushes us to rely on God

“God whispers to us in our pleasure, speaks to us on our conscience, but shouts to us in our pain.”
—C.S. Lewis

- * It lowers us to humility

“I was lowered in a basket . . .” (verse 33)

- * It makes us stronger

“. . . suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.” (Romans 5:3,4)

Reflective Questions:

- 1) What is some difficulty that you have gone through and now has turned out to have helped you?
- 2) How do you understand suffering? Why does God allow suffering?
- 3) Why does Paul boast of suffering? How do you relate to this teaching?



Next Sunday, April 30

“The Two Sides of the Gospel”

Society teaches that everyone is unique and beautiful in their own way. Similarly, we can exclusively buy into a Jeremiah 29:11 mentality when it comes to interacting with God—He has great things in mind for you! But in seeking life with only this understanding at the forefront, we miss out on the two sides of the Gospel.



If you would like “10 Minutes A Day” written by our Pastor, please email us at connie@newharvestch.org tell us if you want it emailed or by mail.