



Small Group Study Notes

Gemstone: The Gospel

Romans 5:1-8

Tell of a time when suffering led you into a closer walk with Jesus?

Our passage in Romans is paralleled in the opening of James' epistle.

READ James 1:2-4

James connects *suffering* to *perseverance* similarly to Paul, but then he mentions another result "maturity."

- In what way will "perseverance" lead towards spiritual maturity?

- How has "suffering" helped lead you towards spiritual maturity?

- What needs to change in our perspective such that we can "rejoice?"

READ Titus 3:3-5

If suffering reveals our inability and weaknesses, how is the gospel as outlined in Titus 3 helping to make Christians mature? (*Hint: Who do mature Christians credit for their salvation? Look at Ephesians 2:8-9 for additional support*)