



**Week 2:
Where is God When I Hurt?**

1. GOD _____ OUR PAIN.

God allowed the possibility of suffering, troubles, when He first determined in the Garden of Eden to give mankind a choice as free moral agents.

God has created certain natural laws and ordained that they shall function. Thus, the law of gravity is quite cruel to someone who falls over a cliff or out of a twenty-story window, but without this law we could not live on this planet.

We find Jesus bluntly telling His disciples, "In the world you will have tribulation..." John 16:33

2. GOD _____ IN OUR PAIN.

While God does not spare us from troubles but allows them, He DOES accompany us in our sufferings and trials.

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you: when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned and the flames will not consume you." (Isaiah 43:2,3)

Here we are told that in all of these various trials of life God promises His people that, *He will be our strength and stay; our shield and supply* (Psalm 46:1).

Jesus, who experienced the sufferings common to humankind, promises, "Lo, I am with you always..." (Matt. 28:20)

Through the ages God's people have experienced this fact. They have felt God's strengthening presence just when they have needed it most, and knew that they did not suffer alone; that God truly cares.

When He's all you got you discover He is all you need.



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God is with us comforts us

"the Lord is near to the brokenhearted" (Ps. 34:18),

when we go through the *"valley of the shadow of death"* it is then that his presence is particularly promised to us (Ps. 23:4).

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you"
Isa. 49:15

Peter calls Him, *" the God of all comfort and Father of mercies"*, who bids us to, *"cast our anxieties on Him, for He cares for us"* 1 Pet. 5:7

Jesus understands pain and grief.

When his friend Lazarus died, Jesus openly wept at his tomb.
Jn. 11:35

"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.
Mt. 26:38

Jesus was called, *"a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief"*
Isa. 53:3

3. GOD _____ OUR PAIN.

"In the world you will have tribulation, but take courage, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Rev. 21:4

4. GOD _____ OUR PAIN.

It may be that the suffering we experience in this life is somehow preparatory to our existence in the life to come (2 Cor. 4:16-18).

The choice is ours , we will either embrace God and find His comfort and purpose in our trials and pain or reject them and discover no purpose and only become bitter.

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