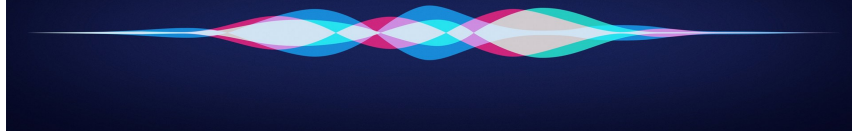


I have questions...



"Why is there Suffering?"

"I Have Questions," part two

"How long, O Lord, must I call for help? But you do not listen! "Violence is everywhere!" I cry, but you do not come to save. ³ Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery?" Habakkuk 1:2-3 (NLT)

*"Why is life given to those with no future, those destined by God to live in distress? ...I have no peace, no quietness. I have no rest; instead, only trouble comes."
Job 3:23,26 (NLT)*

*"O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way?
² How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand? ³ Turn and answer me, O Lord my God!" Psalm 13:1-3 (NLT)*

"My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." Matthew 26:39 (NLT)

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46 (NIV)

"He does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone." Lamentations 3:33 (NIV)

Some suffering is simply the result of _____ sin.

Some suffering is the result of _____ sin.

Some suffering is the result of living in a _____.

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." Romans 8:22 (NIV)

Some suffering is the result of God's _____.

*"The Lord disciplines those He loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."
Hebrews 12:6 (NIV)*

[Our fathers] "disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." Hebrews 12:10-11 (NIV)

"My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees."
Psalm 119:71 (NLT)

"In this world you will have trouble." In John 16:33 (NIV)

When you're suffering, there's no answer that _____. What we need is _____.

God says, "I'll _____ you _____ it."

"Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, 'Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?' They replied, 'Certainly, Your Majesty.' ²⁵ He said, 'Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.'"
Daniel 3:24-25 (NIV)

God says, "I _____ how you _____."

"We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:15-16 (NIV)

God says, "I'll _____ your _____ for a _____."

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

_____ to God and don't _____.

¹⁸ On the seventh day the child died. David's attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, 'While the child was still living, he wouldn't listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate.'

¹⁹ David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. 'Is the child dead?' he asked. 'Yes,; they replied, 'he is dead.'

²⁰ Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped."

2 Samuel 12:18-20 (NIV)

God says, "The pain will _____ soon, and there is _____ beyond it."

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." Romans 8:18 (NIV)