



TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS



A publication of , the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church.

Talk together about the glory of God's kingdom. —Psalm 145:11
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. —Joshua 22:5

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

- Perhaps no **mere** human has suffered more than Job. Read Job 1:6—2:10. Now, review Pastor Doug's five points to keep in mind when suffering unjustly (see Sermon Summary). As a group, identify passages that show Job fulfilling each point.

As a group, imagine together what might have been at risk if Job had not fulfilled each point.

- **No** man has suffered more than the Lord Jesus at his crucifixion (Isaiah 52:14). Review the seven statements Jesus made, identifying how He too fulfilled the five points Pastor Doug identified:

- ❶ Luke 23:34
- ❷ Luke 23:43
- ❸ John 19:26-27

Note: Statements 1-3 show Jesus reaching out with mercy to others. In statements 4-7 Jesus reaches out to his Father for his own needs.

- ❹ Matthew 27:46
- ❺ John 19:28
- ❻ John 19:30
- ❼ Luke 23:46

- Which of those five points do you find most difficult to apply when you're suffering? Why that one?
- What few concise statements would you want to share with someone who asks about your beliefs?

Application-Challenge

- When you patiently endure unfair treatment, you are blessed. You are fulfilling God's purpose and plan, and soon you will be rewarded for your endurance. Don't panic or worry. Acknowledge that Jesus is Lord over this situation.
- Be a person of integrity (it's both your best defense against unjust criticism, and the greatest evidence that God in heaven is powerfully at work in you.)
- Be ready to defend your faith as the opportunity arises. In a few concise statements, what would you share with someone who asks you about your beliefs?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Finally, fashion your brief statements into an articulate paragraph that feels natural to speak—and practice saying it until you're comfortable.

2019.6.30



Sermon Summary (Key Text: 1 Peter 3:13-17)

Jesus once said that “in this world you will have tribulation,” and we all know that to be true. The fact that suffering exists doesn’t trouble us until we are the ones suffering, and it is especially troubling when we feel our suffering is unjustified. While we know that one day God will make all things right, how are we to deal with injustices in our lives? How can we keep pressing on when life doesn’t seem fair?

Our response to unfairness is greatly influenced by our perspective, or the lens through which we view life. We either have a human perspective—one that seeks retribution when it perceives unequal treatment; or a divine perspective—one that yields its rights to the Lord and trusts in Him to work all things together for good (Romans 8:28).

1 Peter 3:13-17 offers five-fold advice that will enable us to live in an unfair, inequitable world, and leads with a general rule that if you live a clean and honest life, you **usually** won’t suffer for it.

[1] When suffering, consider yourself to be blessed by God. When you patiently endure unfair treatment, you are fulfilling God’s purpose and plan for your life. It is understandably difficult to remain joyful when you are going through pain, but it’s important to remember that one day you will be rewarded for your endurance of these undeserved trials.

[2] Don’t panic or worry as it does nothing but undermine your trust in the Lord. God is aware of your struggle and He is your defense. He has your back.

[3] Acknowledge that Jesus is Lord over this situation. He is glorified in the midst of your trial. He is sovereign and is allowing this trial for reasons that are all His, even if it does not make sense to you.

[4] Be ready to defend your faith when the opportunity arises. Crisis often presents a platform for gospel witness, especially when your actions match your talk. This is especially true if #5 is in place, so...

[5] Be a person of integrity. Your integrity is both your greatest defense against unjust criticism and the greatest evidence that there is a God in heaven who is powerfully working in your life.

We should not be surprised when we are overlooked or persecuted by the world. It is a natural part of walking in opposition to culture and standing for Jesus Christ, but we can take heart, because we know that He has already overcome the world. And through Him alone, so can we.

Talking To God About This Week’s Message

“Heavenly Father, today I want to be a ‘doer’ of the Word, and not just a ‘hearer’. Amen.”

Talking To Others About This Week’s Message

If a neighbor or friend at work asked you, “*What kind of stuff do they talk about at your church?*”, how would you summarize the most important elements of this week’s sermon and the key lessons you intend to apply to your life? Can you explain it in **plain language** anyone could understand?

Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

"Five Question Bible Study" (see page below) is a simple way to study any passage. When Jesus suffered, he let Psalm 22 guide his response. Let it help you too...

Monday— Psalm 22:1-8

Tuesday— Psalm 22:9-18

Wednesday— Psalm 22:19-21

Thursday— Psalm 22:22-24

Friday— Psalm 22:25-31

Saturday— ***In preparation for worshipping your risen Lord tomorrow with your church family,*** study 1 Peter 3:18-22.

Need blank copies for doing more

"Five Question Bible Study"?

e-mail: Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com

Bible Text: _____

Date: _____



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) is it found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text?