



Our hope is that you were challenged by Sunday's message and would desire to take the study a little deeper. Whether for personal study, family study, or for a Home Group gathering, use this study to go deeper.

Open

April 22, 2018

...we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
—2 Corinthians 4:8-10

In the final sermon of the series, *Because He Lives*, the focus is on those who hurt. Like failure, suffering is an experience that every human being endures. The specifics may change for each person and each circumstance, but the impact on all of us is the same. Our faith is chal-

Main Point

The hope we find in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is that our trial will end in victory and our own resurrection, in His glory, and in someone else's good.

Read

2 Corinthians 4; Job 1:20-22; Romans 5:1-5; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:3-9

Discuss

- What is the treasure we possess in these "earthen vessels?"
- Why has God chosen "earthen vessels" like us?
- What do you "say" when you are hurting, enduring some difficult ordeal? How have you proclaimed the risen Christ through your suffering? Are your words consistent with the faith you claim?
- As God called him to hold fast in the midst of suffering, Paul saw more and more people giving thanks to the glory of God. Are there any personal examples of that exchange in your life? Was there comfort in the hope of others giving thanks though you endured a trial?
- Paul says that his trials are light in comparison to the eternal weight of glory. What of the cross and resurrection of Jesus helps us accept the truth of that?