



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Isaiah 53

We are all insecure. The cry of the heart is, “*Am I loved...Am I lovable?*” In the suffering of Jesus, God’s answer is always, “Yes!” Your worth is not found in what you have, or what you don’t have. Your worth is in who you are in Christ because of what he suffered for you. His agony on the way to the cross...his pain on the cross...all of that was for you. So you can be healed. So you can be whole. So you can have a relationship with God. The suffering and death of Jesus answered all the questions, healed all the iniquity, and conquered this life. So if you are walking through your life weighed down by your own pain, let Jesus carry it and have new life in him. The purity of this mystery of Jesus’s dying for us ought to ignite holiness in our living—on mission for God. When you live this purpose, letting go of the suffering of your humanity and will, God will be glorified in the suffering. The answer to all *your* suffering can and will always be found in the suffering of Jesus!

Pray

Jesus, I am overwhelmed by the act of your suffering, by your sacrifice for me on the cross. You did this so my sin could be forgiven, so my iniquities can be healed, so I can have everlasting life in the Father. You did this for me. How can I do anything less than what you ask of me. Let your Spirit guide me to glorify you in all I do.

Getting Started

- Has there ever been a time in your life when you experienced such immense pain that you didn’t think you would survive it? Share a quick recap of that story.
- Have you ever watched *The Passion of the Christ*? What was your reaction to the crucifixion scene?

Digging Deeper

1. If you grew up in the church, *God*, *Jesus*, and *The Bible*, may have been standard, easy answers to some Sunday School questions. Discuss this statement: God is not a shallow answer to a deep question. Is this true? How so?
2. We want to avoid suffering at all costs. Jesus walked into suffering at all costs. Why do you think Jesus was so faithful to God’s plan for him on this earth? What can you learn from this?
3. Read Philippians 1:29, 1 Peter 1:24, 1 Peter 4:1-2, 1 Peter 4:12-13, and Romans 5:3-. What is the common theme in these passages?
4. We are called to suffer in companionship with Jesus—and not only suffer, but to rejoice in that suffering. Do we? *How* do we suffer for Jesus? Specifically, how do *YOU* suffer for Jesus? (See 1 Peter 4:1-2 for help with this answer.)
5. What do you think this means: Jesus suffered for the love of God—and for the love of you. Until that means *everything* to you, it really means nothing.
6. How does this week’s Message inspire you? How does it change your every day walk with Jesus?

Living Jesus

You are valued and loved. So loved that Jesus died so you can have eternal life in him. It’s time to accept the healing that the suffering of Jesus gave you. It’s time to think, be, live and love differently. If you are walking through life weighed down by your own suffering, give it to Jesus! He already bled and died for it. Let him bear the pain you feel. Trade your suffering for the suffering of Jesus so you might bring glory to him and healing to the world through him.