

Suffering for the Glory of God

Week 1: The Problem of Suffering and the Bible's Answer

The wisdom of God and a call to trust

Week 2: God's Revealed Purposes for Suffering

How God can use suffering for our good and His glory

Week 3: The Future of Suffering

The importance of heaven and hell for a suffering Christian

Week 4: God's Grief over Suffering

The empathy of a suffering God

Week 5: Unbiblical Reactions to Suffering

Temptations to find hope in what is passing away

Week 6: Fighting for faith, Part 1

Struggling for faith in God's sovereignty and goodness

Week 7: Fighting for faith, Part 2

Helping others fight for faith in the local church

Week 8: Sharing Their Burdens

A biblical perspective on the relief of physical suffering

Week 9: Suffering as Witness

Making the most of your suffering for the glory of God

Week 10: Applying the Framework

Suffering through illness

Week 11: Suffering for the gospel

Biblical wisdom for the persecuted

Week 12: Panel Discussion

Week 13: The Secret of Contentment

Finding joy in Christ in any and every situation

Questions? [Email addresses of teachers]

Core Seminars—Suffering for God's Glory **Class 8: Sharing Their Burdens**



A biblical perspective on the relief of physical suffering

Introduction

I. Principle #1 – Love is the Posture of a Christian

The Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37 “...Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man...? ...You go, and do likewise.”

Lev 19:9-18 Love to our Neighbors—with our possessions (v9-10), with our words (v11-12), with our actions (v13-14), in our judgements (v15-16), in our attitude (v17-18)

II. Principle #2 – Moral Proximity

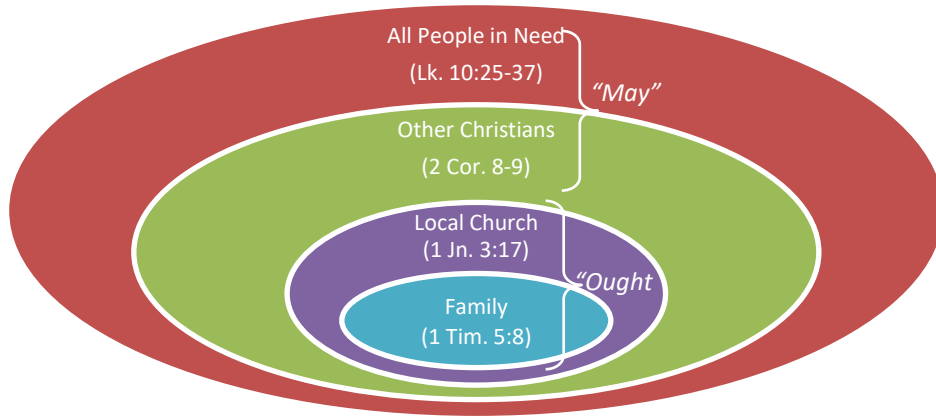
The closer the moral proximity of the need, the greater the moral obligation to help...

Galatians 6:10 “...as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone....”

1 John 3:17 “But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in?”

2 Corinthians 8-9 “I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love is genuine...Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

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 God’s Sovereignty
 (Matt 19:26, Ps 121:2)



III. Principle #3 – The Priority of Need

1 Corinthians 15:3 “For I delivered to you as a first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that he was raised on the third day...”

“Suffering in this world is terrible and limited but suffering in the next world is terrible and eternal. And love sees it that way. Love does not shut its eyes to this world or that world. Love reckons with the reality of suffering here, and the worse reality of suffering there...Don’t choose between rescuing people from suffering in this world and rescuing people from suffering in the next. We care about all suffering now, especially eternal suffering”

-John Piper

Priority of need and fighting for faith...

i. *For those who are suffering*

ii. *For those who are helping*

IV. Conclusion