

The Faith-Filled Catholic Women's Bible Study Program

Participant's Worksheet

Suffering

Insert S-1 through S-4

You can prepare for the discussion about the theme **Suffering** by thinking about how you might answer the following questions:

Why do I think bad things happen to good people?

How does Jesus show me how to respond to suffering in my life?

Pope John Paul II often spoke of the salvific power of suffering. What does that mean to me?

Read **1 Peter 1:6-7 (Page 355 NT)**.

Has there been one area of my life where I feel God has (or is) testing me through some hardship?

Do I think that I have passed (or am passing) the test?

How has my own suffering changed the way I look at the trials of others?

Read the **Faith in Action** article "The Art of Dying" on insert page S-4

Who do I admire because of the way they handle suffering in their life.

My experience with how someone close to me handled suffering during a terminal illness.

What role does my faith play in helping me endure suffering in life?

Group Prayer - My intentions for group prayer this week:

Closing Prayer:

The Prayer of Abandonment

by Charles de Foucauld

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.

Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures –

I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul;

I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you Lord,

**and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands,
without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father.**

My Personal Response in Suffering for this week – Talk to your children or grandchildren about how they react to suffering. Encourage them to see how God uses suffering to draw us closer to Him.

Other Scripture on **Suffering**:

Deuteronomy 8:2-3 (Page 196 OT) * Matthew 10:38 (Page 31 NT)

Romans 8:35-39 (Page 227 NT) * 2 Corinthians 1:3-11 (Page 260 NT) * 1 Peter 2:21 (Page 357 NT)

Philippians 3:10-11 (Page 297 NT) * Hebrews 12:4-11 (Page 344 NT) * 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 (Page 264 NT)