

Week 2:

When You're Suffering, Sick, or Struggling



Questions

1. What illustration, story or scripture had the greatest impact on you this week?
2. When you're hurting and God seems distant, what can you do? Do you truly believe that God keeps all His promises? Why or why not?
3. Read Luke 1:35. Mary's life was completely turned upside down with her unexpected pregnancy. How do you imagine she felt about her situation? What's remarkable about her response to the news about her impending pregnancy?
4. Pastor John reminds us that God's promises are the secret to rising above the turmoil of our circumstances. Where have you seen God's promises help you rise above a current challenge in your life?
5. Read 2 Peter 1:4b. What's the most interesting aspect of this verse for you? How does God's help allow you to escape evil desires?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 1:18-22. How do these verses impact how you live your everyday life?

Scripture References

Read 2 Peter 1:2-4, Genesis 3:15, Luke 1:35, Luke 2:1-7, 1 John 3:8, Jeremiah 29:11, Luke 2:19

Takeaways

- God's promises are the secret to rising above the turmoil of your circumstances.
- You can participate in God-like, higher-level living when you know and claim the promises of God.
- Christmas is a promise kept by God, who is never blocked by evil, powerful, or unreliable people.
- We tend to underestimate God's reliability in His unconditional promises and our responsibility in His conditional promises.