

**2020 Embracing a New Vision**  
**Suffering- The Birth of Vision- Week #2**  
**Small Group Notes**  
**April 23 and 26**

**Main Point:** Vision is ultimately about us seeing things the way that God sees them.

**Introduction:**

What is something you were anticipating to do this past month, but because of the virus, it has changed? What about next month?

What are some things that you are looking forward to in the next month to experience?

The virus situation has truly changed our anticipations and expectations. Sometimes how we meet embrace change can be harder than we realize. Often times it can lead to pain, but it is through suffering that we learn to embrace the vision of God through our experiences.

Before we begin our discussion, read John 16: 1-4, 20-22

**Discuss:**

**1. Vision isn't surprised by suffering**

- What has been something that caught you by surprise during this time?
- Read John 16:33, how does this verse help us to not be surprised by suffering?

**2. Vision sees suffering as a season.**

- What has been the longest time that you have suffered through something? What do you feel God was teaching you through that?
- If it's still going on today, what are you learning about suffering and God?

- Read John 16:22, How does this verse emphasize how suffering, though it feels long, is temporary?

### **3. Vision sees the source of suffering.**

- Read John 16:1-3 and Genesis 1:31 and 3:16.
- How does this verse show us that suffering is a part of our human experience?
- What are ways that vision helps us to look beyond suffering?
- What have been some lies that you listened to about suffering?

### **4. Vision sees the purpose of suffering.**

- Read John 16:21
- How do you feel your faith is getting stronger during these days?
- How does the suffering of Jesus help us to understand our suffering?
- What does it mean that God does his greatest work through suffering?

### **Do:**

- Who is someone that you know may be suffering during these days that you can encourage?
- If you are experiencing a season of suffering, ask someone in your group discussion to pray with you?
- Spend some time sharing the impact of realizing that you are not in control.