

Psalm 119 - Session 4: Verses 49 - 64

Matt Chandler

// Community Question

Tell about a time when you were struggling or suffering, and someone came alongside you. What did they do that helped? What did they do that didn't help even though they meant well?

// Discussion Questions: **READ: Psalm 119:49-64**

1. When you hear the word suffering, what comes to mind? How do you tend to respond to suffering?
What or to whom do you turn to for comfort and support?
2. Matt gave three categories of why people suffer:
 - 1) The fallenness of our world
 - 2) The sins of others
 - 3) Our own sin.Does one seem harder to accept or endure than the others? Why?
Discuss how these get confused and how God's grace impacts each: suffering and consequences.
3. Psalm 119:50: "This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life."
Name some promises of God. How can or do they comfort you?
4. Read Hebrews 11:13-16. These verses refer to people of great faith like Abel, Enoch, Noah, and Abraham.
How does having an eternal perspective help in times of trouble?
5. Verse 63: "I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts."
Do you let people into where you are suffering or struggling?
Why are we hesitant to let people in during difficulties?
6. "God does not intend suffering for our punishment but allows it in the same way that a surgeon wounds for the sake of removing what would ultimately harm us."
What makes us think that suffering is punishment? What should be our view of God's role when we suffer?

// Challenge:

How have you found the companionship of other believers to be a comfort to you in difficult periods of life?
Do you have that kind of community today? What are some steps toward having that supportive community?