



Dear Parents,

After three intense weeks of study, we've completed our series on suffering. It has been an enlightening time of study for all of us, and the time together has been great!

This week, the lesson was entitled "Through the Fire." The point of this lesson was for the students to learn that God uses trials and suffering to accomplish His purposes and shape our faith, as well as impact others.

We looked at the following Scripture passages:

- Genesis 50:20
- 1 Peter 1:3-7
- James 1:2-4
- Romans 8:28

We learned something different from each of these passages. In Genesis, we looked at the story of Joseph and how he recognized that God always intended his suffering for the good of many. Though we don't always see things as clearly as Joseph did, in Romans, we are reminded that God brings about good plans of all that we experience. In 1 Peter and James we learned that we can actually find joy in the midst of suffering.

Next Steps . . .

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, consider asking the following questions:

- How do you think you would respond if your siblings or people you care for treated you like Joseph's brothers treated him?
- What is the difference between "considering it pure joy" when you experience suffering and enjoying suffering?
- Has this study changed the way you see the difficult experiences in your life? How do you think you'll handle them now?

I really enjoy the time I spend with your teenager! Thank you for allowing me to partner with you in making a disciple of your child. If you have any questions about anything, please don't hesitate to call me.