

DISCUSS

How did Matt describe the theme of this portion of Psalm 119?

What are the five benefits described by David in this passage?

As you think on your relationship with Christ, how has He been good to you? What have you found to be the benefits of knowing Him?

According to verses 67, 69, and 71 what is the spiritual benefit of suffering for believers in Jesus Christ?

What did Matt mean when he said “God does not drive an ambulance”?

How does the idea of God as a “surgeon” strike you? In what ways does it reshape the way He can use the suffering you experience for good?

How has God used suffering in your life to draw you into a deeper relationship with Him? What has He taught you during those times?

Everyone in life suffers, but what sets Christians apart in the way they are to view suffering?

According to verse 73, who “makes” and “fashions” us?

What does David ask of God as a result of his declaration?

What are some of the unique qualities God has given to you?

How has He presented you with opportunities to use those qualities for His glory?

HANDOUT

Session 5: Psalm 119:65–96

PSALM 119

How should this understanding—that God has designed each of us specifically and uniquely—reorient the ways in which we think about ourselves (body image, personality, intelligence, etc.)?

As you read through verses 73–80, what attributes of God do you see David list?

Which attribute stands out to you the most? How have you experienced it in your own life?

How has belonging to a community of believers deepened your walk with Christ? What are the benefits of authentic relationships with other believers?

How do verses 81–88 demonstrate David’s hope in God through His Word?

How have you experienced hope in times of difficulty and uncertainty? How do those past experiences help to strengthen your hope today?

What did Matt point to as the assurance of our hope?

Which verses in 89–96 stands out to you as demonstrating David’s rejuvenation through God’s Word?

What are some of the ways you have experienced God’s rejuvenating work in your life?

What are some passages of Scripture that refresh your heart?

How should the truth that the rejuvenating power of God is inexhaustible impact the way you pursue Him going forward?

LIVE IT OUT

Pray: Each day this week, make it a point to ask that God would use the circumstances of your life to create in you a greater dependence upon Him.

Write: On a single page of paper, write down the five benefits Matt listed that come from a life surrendered to God. Select the one you'd most like to grow in and spend some time each day this week asking God to mature you in that area.

Connect: Reach out to a believer who exhibits greater maturity in the "benefit" you'd like to grow in. Schedule some time to get together and talk with him or her about how God has matured them in that area of their spiritual journey.

Listen: Make time to meet with a believer you know that has experienced suffering and found deeper intimacy with God as result. Ask him or her about that process as well as how to trust God in the midst of difficulty.

List: Write out a list of the unique gifts God has given to you. Underneath each one, write 2–3 ways you could use that gift to serve someone in your life. Pick one of those opportunities for service and act on it at some point over the next week.