

FOUNDATIONS | Romans 8:18-25 *Suffering* | 11.28.10

Every church and every person needs to have foundational beliefs that guide and direct life, decisions, direction, and processes. During 'Foundations' *The Church at Martinsburg* will examine the book of Romans and establish core doctrinal beliefs for life, relationships, and mission. This series, more than any we've done before, will set the pace and direction for the church.

Growth Questions for 11/28 – 12/5

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, troubling?
2. What do you think the current Church (in the U.S.) believes about suffering? What do you think the unbelieving world believes about the causes and purposes of suffering?
3. As Christ-followers, why must we suffer? Consider any of the following: John 15:21; John 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 1:3-7; 2 Cor. 4:7-11; Phil. 3:7-10; Col. 1:24; Heb. 12:7-10; 1 Pet. 4:12-16
4. How was creation subjected to futility? (Gen. 3:17-19 & 5:28-29) How will it be liberated? (2 Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 21:1; Acts 3:21)
5. What makes biblical hope more than a desire or wish? Eph 2:11-13; 1 Thess. 4:3-14 & 5:8; 2 Cor. 1:9-10; Col. 1:27; Ro. 5:5 & 15:4

Proclaim...Reach...Connect...Go

1. How does being free from condemnation embolden you in your faith? How does this truth motivate you as you reach out to others far from God?
2. In what hardship or suffering are you having to trust Jesus at this point in your life? Does your attitude in your current situation reveal the true state of what you believe about Suffering? Explain.
3. Consider the source and purpose for suffering. What attitudes and behaviors accompany those who suffer, but do so in light of truth?
4. Do you have an eager longing for the consummation of your adoption as a child of God? What might you do now to "whet your appetite" for heaven?

C@M CHRISTMAS PARTY – On 12.12.10 immediately following the morning worship experience The Church at Martinsburg will be hosting a

Christmas Party at the Purple Iris. RSVP is required. Please return your RSVP card **TODAY** with your number of attendees to either Micha or Kiana McCutcheon outside of Theater 4.

VOLUNTEERING AT C@M - Be a part of what God is doing here at the church. Find a place to use your gifts and talents in the body. Volunteer teams include; sound, greeting, set-up, hospitality, children, community groups, communication, administrative, and C@M Kidz. For more information email contact@martinsburgchurch.org or call 304 596-9330.

...to proclaim the Gospel and reach those far from God.