

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Romans 5:3-5 – A Believer’s Guide for Difficulties

Next weekend (3/1-3/3) is Grounded Student Ministries annual DNOW weekend. This is a weekend of biblical exposition, small group discipleship, service, and relationship building. Rick Holland is going to be preaching for DNOW, which means he will also be preaching on Sunday morning. We’ll be looking at various passages throughout the weekend that are specifically directed at having a biblical worldview. On Sunday morning we’ll be in Romans 5:3-5 looking at how a believer should approach difficulties with a biblical worldview.

❖ Day 1

Read Romans 5:1-5.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined>. Commands are double-underlined>. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

- 3a Not only that, (contrast v.2)
- 3b but we rejoice in our sufferings, (coordinating w/v.2)
- 3c knowing (causal 3b)
- 3d that suffering produces endurance, (content 3c)
- 4a and endurance produces character, (content 3c)
- 4b and character produces hope, (content 3c)
- 5a and hope does not put us to shame, (content 3c)
- 5b because God’s love has been poured into our hearts (causal 5a)
- 5c through the Holy Spirit (agency 5b)
- 5d who has been given to us. (description 5c)

1. What are the benefits of justification Paul describes in vv. 1-2?

2. What is a believer’s rejoicing grounded in according to v. 2? What does this mean?

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3. This may seem well and good theologically/hypothetically, but how does that comfort a believer enduring difficulty?
4. What does v. 3 say the believer's rejoicing is in?
5. Is this shocking to you? How does this relate to v. 2?

❖ Day 2

Read Romans 5:1-5 again.

6. Why can we rejoice in our suffering according to v. 3?
7. What is the role of "knowing" for the believer in suffering?
8. How does this compare with popular notions of dealing with suffering?

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9. What is it that we know that enables us to rejoice in our suffering?

10. What does suffering produce? What does that mean?

11. How have you seen this play out in your life or in the life of another?

12. What does endurance produce? What does that mean?

13. How have you seen this play out in your life or in the life of another?

14. What does character produce? What does that mean?

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15. How have you seen this play out in your life or in the life of another?

❖ Day 3

Read Romans 5:1-5 again.

16. Why does hope not put us to shame?

17. What does that mean?

18. Where is the love of God poured out? What does this mean? How does this impact your understanding of God's love being poured out there?

19. Who is the agent of God's love being poured out in our hearts?

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20. How is the Holy Spirit described in this verse? What impact does this have on our understanding of this passage?

21. How is it that the Spirit pours out the love of God in our hearts?

22. How should this passage impact the Christian's view of suffering?

23. How does this passage help you with something you're going through right now?

24. In what ways can you apply this passage even if you aren't in the midst of suffering?

25. How can you apply this passage in a discipleship relationship?

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26. How should this passage impact our church?

27. How can you apply this passage in a conversation on Sunday morning?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that as a church, we would have a right view of suffering. That we wouldn't view suffering as something to get away from, but something to persevere through with a right perspective so that we are conformed to the image of Christ by the work of the Spirit through the Word in that suffering.