



## Week #4: How My Suffering Makes a Difference

*Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.*

1 Peter 3:8-9 (NIV)

- My \_\_\_\_\_ make a difference.

*For,*

*“Whoever would love life  
and see good days  
must keep their tongue from evil  
and their lips from deceitful speech.  
They must turn from evil and do good;  
they must seek peace and pursue it.  
For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous  
and his ears are attentive to their prayer,  
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

1 Peter 3:10-12 (NIV)

- My \_\_\_\_\_ make a difference.

*Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

1 Peter 3:13-15 (NIV)

- My \_\_\_\_\_ makes a difference.

*For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.*

1 Peter 3:17-18 (NIV)

- Christ's suffering \_\_\_\_\_, and is \_\_\_\_\_, a difference for me.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. How can I consciously choose to repay evil with blessing in my daily interactions, especially when I am wronged or insulted?
2. In what ways can I ensure that my words are life-giving and truthful? Are there situations where I need to seek forgiveness for words that may have caused harm?
3. In what ways can you arm yourself with the attitude of Christ while facing suffering?
4. How can you continue to do good and entrust yourself to God during difficult times?

## **RECOMMENDED RESOURCES**

- [The Problem of Pain by C.S. Lewis](#)
- [Walking with God through Pain and Suffering by Timothy Keller](#)
- [Learning to Walk in the Dark by Barbara Taylor Brown](#)

**(NIV) New International Version**

## Week #4: How My Suffering Makes a Difference - **FILL**

*Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.*

1 Peter 3:8-9 (NIV)

- My ACTIONS make a difference.

*For,*

*“Whoever would love life  
and see good days  
must keep their tongue from evil  
and their lips from deceitful speech.  
They must turn from evil and do good;  
they must seek peace and pursue it.  
For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous  
and his ears are attentive to their prayer,  
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

1 Peter 3:10-12 (NIV)

- My WORDS make a difference.

*Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

1 Peter 3:13-15 (NIV)

- My STORY makes a difference.

*For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.*

1 Peter 3:17-18 (NIV)

- Christ’s suffering MADE, and is MAKING, a difference for me.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can I consciously choose to repay evil with blessing in my daily interactions, especially when I am wronged or insulted?
2. In what ways can I ensure that my words are life-giving and truthful? Are there situations where I need to seek forgiveness for words that may have caused harm?
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