

Googling God



Why is there suffering in life?



Who is to _____?

Some suffering is directly caused by the spiritual powers of darkness.

Some suffering is directly caused by people, including us.

All evil initiated from the spiritual powers of darkness.

All is allowed by God, for a time, for the sake of freedom and real love.

We must have an answer down deep; the intellectual answers are important but insufficient.

Job: (a Righteous person suffering)

We need to know _____

Lamentations: (a Rebellious people suffering)

We need to know God's _____ in the middle of the suffering.

Lazarus (John 11:1-37)

We Need to experience _____ from God (and others).

Here are a few questions that have helped people take the time to connect with God's comfort. They are intended to be asked to Jesus slowly, with time to wait for Jesus to answer.

"Lord, do you understand my pain? Do you understand how I was hurt when _____"

"Lord, when did you experience something like this?"

"Lord Jesus, what do you feel for me about this?"

Then, thank Jesus for His compassion and comfort. "Dear Lord, thank you for caring so much about me that you feel compassion for my pain. Thank you for understanding and caring."

Takeaway: May we trust God as God and _____ His compassionate response to our suffering, because:

God is Loving and Good

God is relational and emotional

God is a God who sees us

God is a God who responds (He disciplines and rewards)

God is compassionate

Additional Verses to Ponder

Lamentations 3:19-33 Remember my affliction and my wanderings,

the wormwood and the gall!

²⁰ My soul continually remembers it
and is bowed down within me.

²¹ But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

²⁴ “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul who seeks him.

²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD....

³¹ For the Lord will not
cast off forever,

³² but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

³³ for he does not afflict from his heart
or grieve the children of men.

Isaiah 61:1-2 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on
me, because the Lord has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim freedom for the captives

and release from darkness for the prisoners,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

and the day of vengeance of our God,

to comfort all who mourn,

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and
the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our
troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble
with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

Psalms 68:19 Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior,
who daily bears our burdens.

Psalms 37:7 Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Psalms 121:2 My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalms 40:1 I waited patiently for the Lord;
he turned to me and heard my cry.

Luke 2:30-32

For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

Psalms 130:5-6 I wait for the Lord, my whole being
waits, and in his word I put my hope.

I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Isaiah 30:18 Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show you compassion.

For the Lord is a God of justice.

Blessed are all who wait for him!

Psalms 37:39 The salvation of the righteous comes from
the Lord;

he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

Psalms 62:5-6 Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

Psalms 27:14 Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.