**Hope Beyond Suffering**

**Kip McCormick | May 11 & 12, 2019**

How does having “the long view” help?

Take a moment to work on our memory verse for the Hope Series, 1 Peter 1:3 NIV.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” Read 1 Peter 1:4-25.

From Week 1 we learned that hope is a noun, a person, and that hope is a tool to get us through hard times. What hit home to you from Week 2’s message?

“Why does a good God, an all-powerful God, allow evil and suffering in our world?

Where did evil and suffering begin?

How can we be convinced that God will one day get rid of all evil and suffering if he doesn’t seem to get rid of it now?

What’s the proof that suffering will one day end? How does that hope help in the grind of everyday living?

Doesn’t the presence of injustice or suffering prove the absence of God? John 16:33, Isaiah 43:2-3a; Romans 8:22-23a

In 1:6 does God ask us to rejoice when our world falls apart? In what sense do we rejoice when we suffer?

What’s the embrace that Kip calls us to take when our own suffering?

If you yell at God, does that mean you’re walking away from your faith? Psalm 39 and Psalm 88

Is it possible to prepare yourself for suffering ahead of time? If so, how?

We don’t know the final answer to why bad things happen. What is God’s purpose behind the bad that comes our way? And how does goldsmith know he’s finished purifying gold? See Romans 8:29

What’s one thing God has done in your life through suffering?