

5 HANDOUT FOR TESTING THROUGH PAIN

KEY TRUTH

Suffering is a universal experience from which Christians are not always free, but through which they can still experience God's love.

TO THINK ABOUT

Think about a Christian you know who is suffering pain at the moment.

- Why is there pain in the world?

Why are Christians not exempt from experiencing pain?

Many of the people who were healed by Jesus had been excluded from worshipping God in the temple because of their illnesses. After they were healed, they could worship God again.

- What does this tell you about the nature of healing?

Do you think God heals people for the same reasons today?

- Why do you think Jesus heals some people and not others?
- How can you help other Christians who are suffering?

What encouragement can you give to them?

What is the best thing to pray for in times of pain?

Thank Jesus that He has experienced intense suffering, so He knows the pain you and others go through. Pray that pain will bring new experiences of God's love.

BIBLE CHECK

Pain in the world	Luke 13:1-5; Romans 8:18-23; Isaiah 66:9
Coping with suffering	2 Corinthians 1:3-11; Hebrews 12:7-11
Healing is possible	Mark 1:32-34; Acts 5:14-16; James 5:14-15
The end of all suffering	Romans 8:18; Revelation 21:1-4; Psalm 30:5

POSTSCRIPT

Sometimes, it is only through suffering that the deep things of God become clear to us, and the work which God has given us to do is completed – just as Jesus had to suffer in order to do His work.

