

Identifying with the Cross

Session Nine Class Outline

- A. When you're in pain, there are certain portions of Scripture you gravitate towards.
1. Psalms; Job; Lamentations; the cross.
 2. David's greatest honor was being _____ three times on the cross.
 - a. When Jesus wanted language for His emotions on the cross, He reached back to David.
 - b. What kind of journey would you have to walk, to write the kind of thing Jesus would _____ to quote on the cross?
 3. Some of the greatest intimacy in the secret place comes through identifying with Christ's sufferings.
- B. When I don't know how to make sense of my journey, I go back to the cross.
- C. The cross from an eternal perspective.
1. Gen. 3:15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."
 2. Satan was more _____ by the cross than Jesus Christ.
 3. In the end the Lord wants you to be able to say, "I took it in the heel; but my adversary has taken it in the head."
- D. Both Testaments launch with the exact same theme: "_____ through suffering."
1. James 1:2, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."
 2. I call James 1:2 the toughest verse of the Bible.
 3. Endurance is (according to James 1:3): Faith sustained over _____, in the midst of trials.
 4. I call James 1:4 the fattest promise in the Bible.
 5. The hardest verse in the Bible (v. 2) is tough to digest until you see it juxtaposition to the fattest promise in the Bible (v. 4).
- E. Inherent in the promise of James 1:4 is the assurance of divine encounter.

Session Nine Class Outline, cont'd

F. This week's assignment:

1. Read chapters 39-42 in *Secrets Of The Secret Place*.
2. In the *Companion Study Guide*, complete the section entitled "For Personal Reflection" in chapters 39-42.
3. Come next week prepared to discuss your assigned chapters. Bring any questions you might have.