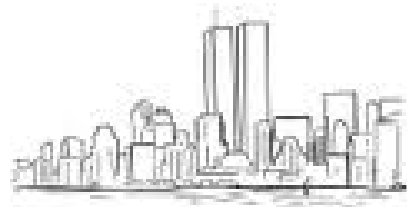


TOWERS AND TERRORS



The Problem of Suffering



9/11 will forever affect our lives and our faith.

The events of that day, and all the suffering of life, cause us to ask, "Why?"
Let's allow our questions to drive us to the only reliable source of answers: the Bible.

What are the reasons for suffering?

Some people blame God and say, "If God were... then He would..."

Have you ever said or thought, "Why, God?"

Have you experienced or seen suffering that has challenged your faith?

Why do bad things happen to good people? Or good things to bad people?

The Bible teaches that suffering comes into our lives because:

We live in a fallen w_____.

We live with a fallen n_____.

We live among fallen p_____.

(See Genesis 3, Luke 17:1-4, Romans 1:18-32, 8:18-27, Ephesians 2:1-11)

Think/Talk about the worst experiences of your life. What caused them?

What are the results of suffering?

There can actually be many positive results of suffering including:

D_____

F_____

W_____

G_____

(See Matthew 5:16, John 15:1-2, 2 Corinthians 12:9, 1 Peter 5:10)

Have you seen someone go through a tough time in life? How did they respond? Did it drive them toward the Lord or away from Him? Did it display their faith in a positive or negative way? Did they grow or diminish in their faith? Have you ever gone through a tough time in life that challenged your faith, put you and your faith on display, created fruit in your life, and caused your faith to grow? How did you respond?

What should be our response to suffering?

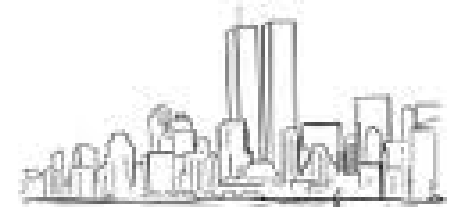
T_____ H_____ S_____ R_____

(See Romans 5:18, 1 Peter 4:12-19, Revelation 22, Luke 13:1-5)

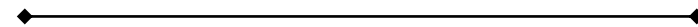
Think/Talk about the difference in the pains of earth and the glory of heaven.



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