

This week Dr. Baucom continues his sermon series, ***In and Out***. Let's look at how we are being challenged as Christ's disciples to live differently in the world while not becoming a part of it through Dr. Baucom's sermon "***In Pain, But Not of It***."

1. *How can an all-good and an all-loving God allow me or someone else close to me to get hit with such a severe trial or tragedy? How can God allow some of His own, especially the ones who are faithfully serving and following Him, to get hit by something that at times will literally come right out of the pit of hell itself? Have you ever asked one of these questions? Have you ever heard anyone else ask the question? How would you answer them?*
2. **Read and reflect on James 1: 2-8, 12.** While reading James' words concerning facing trials, listen for any thoughts or words God might highlight for you. Read the passage again slowly; pause where you find these words and rest to listen again.
 - What does James say should be our response to the trials in our lives? Do you find that to be your first or most natural response to trials, tribulations and difficult times and circumstances?
 - How does James say God uses these often difficult and painful times in our life?
 - In the midst of it, is this process easy to see? Are you even attentive enough to God's movement to see or ask God what He is up to in your life during the painful times?
 - What does verse 12 say comes to those who persevere through the difficult times?
3. **Read and Reflect on Romans 5:3-5.** Rest with this passage for a while. Read it a second time slowly. Rest again, to reflect and listen. Read this passage a third time, slowly and aloud.
 - What do you think it means to exalt or find glory in your tribulations? Have you ever been able to do that? How hard was/is it for you to do?
 - Follow the line of growth or maturity. What are the steps of the process? Where does it lead?
 - What does Paul say is poured into our hearts?
 - How have you experienced God's love through trials, tribulations and pain?
- Can you identify a specific time or circumstance? If so, go back there. How did you see God working in your life? How did you experience the process of growth?
- Have you been able to use that experience since in your life for the encouragement of another? Share this with your Ignition Group.
4. What might the following verses say to you about bearing your pain alone?
 - Philippians 4:6**
 - Galatians 6:1-2**
 - I John 1:9**
 - Matthew 11:28-30**
 - Psalms 23:4**
5. In **1 Peter 1:6-9**, why does Peter say we should rejoice in our trials?
 - What does being "*tested by fire*" do for us?
 - What will be the outcome as we walk with Christ through these times in our journey?
6. Reflect on the following passages and how Jesus showed compassion to those who were in pain:
 - Matthew 20:29-34** (blind men)
 - Luke 8:43-48** (hemorrhaging woman)
 - Mark 5:22-24, 35-43** (Jairus' daughter)
 - Luke 7:11-15** (widow's only son)
 - John 8:2-11** (woman caught in adultery)
 - John 11:17-45** (Martha & Mary - Lazarus' death)
 - How do you see Jesus ministering to them in their pain and circumstances?
 - What similarities do you see in how Jesus touched their lives?
 - What difference did Jesus' compassion make in their lives?
7. Jesus tells his disciples, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Invite your IG to pray His presence may bring you comfort in your times of pain.