



LIVE JESUS MINISTRIES

LJM TOP TWELVE (TT7)

Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen?

PRAY

Start by utilizing the **PRAY** step of your mentor training.

CONNECT

Check In: Peaks, Pits & Prayer Intentions

Go around the group and ask:

- What's one **Peak** (high/victory) and one **Pit** (low/struggle) since we last met? (or a similar type question)
- What's something you want us to **pray for** today? (Write down intentions to pray for at the end)

Encourage honesty and vulnerability. After everyone shares, affirm and thank them for sharing.

DISCUSS

Content References: Watch 6:40–40:40 – [North Point Ministries "Good God"](#)

- **Romans 8:18–28** – “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him...”
 - **John 16:33** – “In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.”
 - **Job 1:21** – “The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”
 - **CCC 309** – God permits evil to bring about a greater good.
 - **CCC 618** – Participation in Christ's suffering is a way of union with Him.
 - **St. John Paul II:** “The mystery of suffering is illuminated by the Cross.” — *Salvifici Doloris*
 - **St. Padre Pio:** “If we only knew the value of suffering, we would ask for it.”
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Discussion Questions

Q1: Have you ever struggled with the fact that God allows bad things to happen?

- What emotion or response came from this realization? How did it affect your faith?
- 💡 *Mentor Tip: Encourage honesty.*
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Q2: Why do you think God, who is Love, allows pain and suffering to exist?

- 💡 *Mentor Tip: Love requires free will (freedom to will the good of another).*
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Q3: What if God removed everything that has ever caused pain and suffering in the world?

- What would be left?
- 💡 *Mentor Tip: Use the spray can analogy from the content reference video above (everything that has ever caused harm or suffering, even people, would be removed). Emphasize: God doesn't want to erase us—He wants to redeem us.*
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Q4: What might the Crucifixion tell us about the purpose of suffering?

- Have you ever experienced a Good Friday type moment? Where did you find hope in the midst of it?
- 💡 *Mentor Tip: It was through an act of suffering that God who is infinitely perfect in Himself was able to reveal the depth of his love for us. Perhaps the purpose of pain and suffering is to reveal love in a way we may never be able to fully understand. The crucifixion serves as the perfect reminder that every **Good Friday** we experience **for the sake of Christ** will be followed by an **Easter Sunday**.*
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Cornerstone Statement

Human suffering is something we will never fully understand. But isn't it true that our greatest growth often comes through moments of suffering? Jesus shared in our suffering so we might share in His glory. Perhaps suffering reminds us this world is not our final home, and earthly suffering plays a much bigger role in our salvation than we think.

COMMIT

- When something hard happens this week, text it to the group and choose to trust that God won't waste it.

Close in prayer: Pray with **Romans 8:18–28** as a hopeful reminder.