

**Troy shared** the following quote from C.S. Lewis:

“When you are happy, so happy that you have no sense of needing Him, if you turn to Him then with praise, you will be welcomed with open arms. But go to Him when your need is desperate, when all other help is vain and what do you find? A door slammed in your face, and a sound of bolting and double bolting on the inside. After that, silence. You may as well turn away.”

**Description:** *God's Holy Fire: 'A Foretaste of Future Glory!'*

"As beautiful and diverse as our world is, we know deep inside us that there is something broken about it. Disease, disasters, decay, and death haunt us, even mock us. Our bodies remind us. Disasters make us aware of this reality. Every fund drive to fight some horrible disease awakens us to this truth. But the Holy Spirit's work within us and for us and the promise of the Spirit's presence within us guarantee us that something perfect, not fractured and not vulnerable to decay, is coming. We long for it. We wait in eager hope for it. God has promised it. And we will celebrate it in the Father's presence with new bodies, fully released from sin and suffering. The Spirit is not just our guarantee of that coming perfection but is also our taste of our future glory."

[www.heartlight.org/ghf/en/1020/](http://www.heartlight.org/ghf/en/1020/)

**Passage from:** Why Does God Allow Suffering?

" God takes no pleasure in the suffering of His children (2 Peter 3:9). He is patient, loving and merciful, operating for our eternal good outside our notions of time and fairness. His only goal is to reconcile His children to Himself. The Good News is that God loves us so much that He provided a free ticket to renewal and salvation through the suffering and death of His Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16). Suffering and death in this corrupted world are guaranteed for each of us. It's our choice whether to accept God's free ticket to eternal life in paradise (Acts 4:12).

Many argue, "Why would an all-powerful, all-loving God allow pain and suffering?" The only way to begin answering this question is to view our fallen world from God's perspective. You see, God dwells in the dimension of eternity. His primary objective is to love us and have us love Him in return. From God's perspective, He uses the trials of this painful world to lovingly prepare His children to spend eternity with Him. The Apostle Paul said, "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). In Hebrews, we learn that Jesus himself "for the glory that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2).

Suffering is a fact of this fallen world. The Bible is a testimony to this reality. However, the complete message of the Bible is that God has His plan for redemption all worked out. Those who put their faith in Jesus Christ have a wonderful hope - a hope of eternity with God in a place where there is no more suffering, evil or death (John 1:12, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Revelation 21:4)."

Check out the full article here: [www.allaboutgod.com/faq/now-that-im-thinking.htm](http://www.allaboutgod.com/faq/now-that-im-thinking.htm)

## **Romans Road**

Are you wondering how to begin a relationship with Jesus or how to share your faith with others? Check out this great article: *What is the Romans Road to salvation?* found here:

[www.gotquestions.org/Romans-road-salvation.html](http://www.gotquestions.org/Romans-road-salvation.html)

We also have some great tools on our website ([generationschurch.com](http://generationschurch.com)). Go to the section entitled *About* and then scroll down to *About Jesus*. The direct link is: [generationschurch.com/about/jesus/](http://generationschurch.com/about/jesus/)

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask your leader or any staff member at Generations.