

MAKING SENSE OF SUFFERING

*TRIALS CAN ALSO BE A _____.

-TESTS _____ SOMETHING ABOUT US

-TESTS _____ US

*SUFFERING MAY MEAN YOU'RE _____.

OUR RESPONSE TO TRIALS & SUFFERING

*TRY TO KEEP YOUR _____ IN _____.

*NEVER LET _____ KEEP YOU FROM _____.

*THINK _____.

*IMMERSE YOURSELF IN _____.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

*What emotions have you experienced in response to recent events?

*All of our emotions are God-given and when properly-balanced these emotions serve an important function in our lives. What are some of the benefits of the emotions you've experienced? What are some concerns related to these same emotions?

*Numerous times in Scripture we find some form of the call to "Be strong and courageous." What practices or principles have you found that help you tap into the strength and courage that comes from God?

*God is not the author of all our pain and suffering, but He is able to use all things for our growth and His glory. How might the trials we currently face be used for our growth? How might the trials we are facing be used for His glory.

*Many of the trials we are currently facing are not the result of anyone persecuting Christians for their faith, but for the people that Peter was writing, persecution and sacrifice were real possibilities. What sacrifices or adversity have you encountered because of your faith?

*Are you willing to be obedient to God, even if it requires sacrifice?

*Take a moment to close in prayer.