

**The Groaning Earth: Purpose & Hope in the
Midst of Suffering (Romans 8:18-25)**

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- How does the reality of heaven change our perspective on suffering?
- Why does God not take us from this earth immediately after we are saved? How should we live our lives in the midst of suffering as we wait upon the Lord?
- What comfort and hope does God give to those who suffer? How does this compare to the comfort & hope unbelievers have?
- What impact has suffering had in your relationship with God?
- Is there anything that particularly stood out to you from the sermon?



FAMILY QUESTIONS

- Have you ever experienced something really hard or painful? What helped you get through that painful experience?
- How can God help us through painful and challenging times in our lives?

WEEKLY PRAYER

- Our Men & Women in Uniform
- Leah Reizner, Cru Germany
- Rod Voland, Elder
- Ryan Conant, Facilities & Maintenance
- Men's Ministries
- Appleton Community Evangelical, Appleton
- Those who do not yet have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus (Col 4:2-4)

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Romans 8:23-25(ESV)