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## **Life Group Sermon Based Questions**

### **"The Purpose of Our Afflictions"**

**(Psalm 119:65-72)**

**Pastor Peter Yi**

**June 18, 2017**

Please continue to go through the New City Catechism as we will soon be ordering these books and encouraging all members to purchase. [newcitycatechism.org](http://newcitycatechism.org)  
You should be on Question 25.

1. Share, what prayers has God answered in your life recently? What prayers have not yet been answered? Spend time giving thanks for answered prayers.
2. Do you think our culture avoids suffering far too much, or do you think that the culture has a sober and balanced view towards it? Consider our view towards death and the way we parent our children to help you answer the question. Support your answer with some reasons.
3. In the sermon it was mentioned that our culture deals with suffering in one of three ways. What were they? Of those three, how do you find yourself buying into those views? You may even consider a personal experience of suffering you had in the past and remember what worldview you approached it with. What's the danger of taking on any one of those views rather than the Christian view toward suffering?
4. Why is it so important to believe the Christian worldview that suffering, ultimately, is the result of sin? What happens if we reject that truth?
5. Christians also believe two fundamental truths regarding God—that he is good and that he is just. First, why is it so important to understand this in the face of suffering? Secondly, can you share a personal experience where these truths really did make a difference? Third, Christians believe that goodness and justice met at the cross where Jesus died. Our God suffers with us and for us. In what way can this be our greatest comfort?
6. What did the psalmist understand God's purpose to be during his suffering?
  - a) He actually called it "GOOD" that he suffered. Have you ever had that kind of experience? Share with your group.
  - b) Once you understand God's purpose in suffering, how will that change your outlook toward those who suffer, including yourself?
7. Spend time praying for each other. Spend time praying by giving thanks to God for suffering with and for us. Thank God for the cross where goodness and justice met. Spend time praying for those suffering in our church.