

PURPOSE CHURCH

SUNDAYS 8:30am | 10:00am | 11:30am

MAY 24, 2026



PURPOSE CHURCH



GREAT QUESTION

HOW THE BIBLE ADDRESSES OUR BIGGEST ISSUES WITH GOD

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WELCOME TO PURPOSE CHURCH!

Are you new to Purpose Church?

We are so glad you are here! We want to meet you, answer any questions you might have, and help you get connected. Come to the Connect Center located in the Lobby after the service to meet our friendly team and pick up a free gift!

NEXT STEPS AT PURPOSE

We believe every person has a *next step* to take. We are here to help you discover and take yours.

Have you decided to follow Jesus?
Do you want to get baptized?
Do you need hope, healing and support?
Are you looking for meaningful community?

Head to: purposechurch.com/nextsteps



EVERYONE EVERYWHERE FOLLOWING JESUS

PRAYER

We would love to pray with you!
Please stop by the prayer room
after the service or submit a
prayer request online.
purposechurch.com/prayer

GIVING

We believe that generous people
transform the world! Offering
boxes are available in the lobby on
Sundays or you can give online.
purposechurch.com/give

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[PURPOSECHURCH.COM](https://purposechurch.com)

WHY IS THERE SO MUCH SUFFERING IN THE WORLD?

May 24, 2026 / Pastor Eric Holmstrom

Great Resources For Great Questions About God, Faith, And The Bible
Sermons + Slides: purposechurch.com/greatquestion

Q1: When Did Suffering Enter The Story of The World?

A1: Satan and The Fall

Genesis 3:1-10

Q2: Why Does Suffering Continue To Happen?

A2: Free Will and Fallen Creation

Genesis 37:2-4, 23, 26-27

Q3: Where Is The Hope In Our Suffering?

A3: God Is With Us In Our Suffering

Genesis 39:1-2, 20-23

Genesis 40:14-15, 23-41:1

Psalm 34:18

Psalm 147:3

Exodus 3:7

John 11:35

Isaiah 53:4

Q4: Where Is The Purpose In Our Suffering?

A4: God Works Through Our Suffering

Genesis 41:46, Genesis 45:1-3, Genesis 50:18-21, Habakkuk 3:17-19

Q5: Where Is The End To Our Suffering?

A5: God Will One Day Defeat Suffering

Revelation 21:1-5

HOW TO PROCESS SUFFERING | *Pray + Listen + Reflect*

- Lord, **where** are you right now?
- Lord, **why** did you allow this?
- Lord, **what** are you wanting to accomplish through this?

HOW TO FORGIVE SUFFERING | *Cast + Declare + Ask*

#1 - **Cast** all your pain on Jesus (1 Peter 5:7).

#2 - **Declare** Jesus has forgiven you of every sin (1 John 2:12).

#3 - **Ask** Jesus to help you forgive what feels unforgivable (Colossians 3:13).

FORGIVING EXERCISE

Reflect: Who has sinned against me?

Repeat: *Jesus, thank you that you care about me and my pain (1 Peter 5:7) and that you have forgiven me of every sin (1 John 2:12). I forgive _____ because you forgave me and please replace my pain and anger with your perfect love and healing (Colossians 3:13).*

REFLECT | DISCUSS | PRACTICE

- 1. REFLECT:** How did you sense God speaking to you through the sermon and Bible verses?
- 2. DISCUSS:** If you had to give up one comfort item for a week (coffee, social media, dessert, sports, etc.), which would be the hardest for you to live without and why?
- 3. DISCUSS:** Read Genesis 3:1-10 and Psalm 34:18. Share a time when pain, loss, disappointment, or hardship shaped you spiritually or emotionally.
- 4. DISCUSS:** Read Genesis 37:2-4 and Genesis 37:23-28. Joseph suffered because of the sinful choices of others. Why do you think God allows humans the freedom to choose even when those choices can deeply hurt people?
- 5. DISCUSS:** Is there any area where your own choices may be contributing to hurt, division, or suffering in relationships around you?
- 6. DISCUSS:** Read Genesis 50:18-21 and Habakkuk 3:17-19. What would it look like to surrender your pain to God instead of allowing bitterness or despair to define you?
- 7. DISCUSS:** Read 2 Peter 3:8-9 and Revelation 21:1-5. How does the promise of Heaven and Christ's return give believers hope in present suffering and fuel us to allow God to use it to build His Kingdom?
- 8. PRACTICE:** Carve out 15 minutes or more this week and go on a prayer walk or write in your prayer journal and **(1) cast** your anxieties and pain on God (1 Peter 5:7), then **(2) declare** the truth and thank Jesus that He has forgiven you (1 John 2:12), and lastly **(3) ask** Jesus to help you forgive what feels unforgivable (Colossians 3:13).

