**Live Different; Live Free**

**Why the Pain?**

**Sovereignty: Supreme power/authority**

**What** is good about my bad situation?

**Where** is my all powerful & all knowing God?

* **Pain and suffering in this world does NOT negate God’s sovereignty.**

**Matthew 5:11-12**

1. **Know that God can relate.**

**Psalm 22:1-8**

 **Matthew 10:22-23a** “and you will be hated by all for **my name's sake**. But the one who **endures** to the end will be saved. 23 When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next…”

**Acts 9:4b** “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting **me**?”

 **Matthew 26:39** “And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

1. **Live with Hope.**

**Luke 1:46-47** “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,”

**Romans 5:3-5** “Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that **suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope**, **5** and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

1. **Walk with Jesus.**

**Matthew 5:13-16**

**Psalm 62:8** “Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.”

**Psalm 13:1-6**

* **Pain and suffering in this world does NOT negate God’s sovereignty.**

**Questions to discuss:**

**Has this study helped you make sense of the hardships in your life? If so, how?**

**What questions came up through this study?**

**Have you been honest with God about how you feel?**

**Do you trust God?**