



Confronting My Pain

If I am spiritual enough I will not have any pain or sin.

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

I. The Problem with Pain

- Scripture doesn't _____ pain, it _____ it. (John 16:33, I John 5:4 & Job 7:1-15)

Myths concerning pain:

- Pain is a _____ for past spiritual _____.
- Pain would be _____ in my life if I were truly _____.

- From the beginning of time, we have failed to understand who to _____ on. (Job 11:13-16 & Job 22:21-22)

- God is not the _____ of pain or sin; he is the _____.

II. The Purpose of Pain

- Pain reminds me how _____ my situation is.
- God allows temporary pain because very often it drives us into his _____.

- The question is not, "_____ has God allowed evil and suffering"; the question is, "_____ is God in the midst of evil and suffering?" (Job 42:1-5 & Psalm 23)

Truth: Being a Christian does not _____ me from problems and pain.

"God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." - C.S. Lewis

III. The Truth About Sin

Lie: If I am _____ enough I will never _____. (I John 1:8)

- Sin reminds me of how _____ I am in my own _____. (Romans 7:24)
- Denying my _____ and _____ leads me into greater levels of captivity. (Psalm 139:23-24)
- Denying my sin is really denying the _____ of _____.
- God is not _____ with my sin but he is able to _____ it. (Psalm 32:1-5)
- Freedom comes when I admit my sins to _____ and _____. (I John 1:9 & James 5:16)
- I will be _____ from the love of God unless I believe that it is okay to _____ my sin to God and the church.
- If I hide my sin, I will not open myself up to God's grace for healing; without _____ God's grace I can't _____ God's grace.

The Truth: I will have _____ and commit _____, but because of the grace of God I am free to face these things.