

Jeremiah 18:6b

# The Place Of Suffering In Shaping

**Shaped For Mission**



Like clay in the hand of the potter,  
so are you in my hand, Israel.

**Our Purpose Is:**

**To Be Joy Filled Followers Of Jesus,  
Who Reflect The Character Of Jesus  
In Every Word, Thought And Deed,  
To Glorify God By Enjoying Him  
And Helping Others Find Their Joy In Him**

**Our Mission is:  
To Model and Teach People  
To Glorify God  
By Learning to Think, Love and Act Like Jesus**

**Our Motto is:  
“Teaching People To  
Think, Act and Love Like Jesus”**

# Why Is There Suffering?

1. Suffering exists because we live in a fallen world.
  - Rom.5:12 – Sin and death came through Adam’s sin
  - Rom.8:20-23 – Creation subjected to futility. Broken Relationships with People, Creation, God
2. Because suffering is a battle ground
  - the Devil’s other names are Liar, Deceiver, Destroyer!  
Eph.6:10-20; 2Thess.2:9,10
  - Mat.3:16-17, cf.4:1-11 Jesus was anointed by the Spirit as Prophet, Priest and King. God said, “my beloved Son”
  - Satan said, “if you are the son of God ...” prove it!

# Why Is There Suffering?

**3. The ultimate reason that suffering exists in the universe is so that Christ might display the greatness of the glory of the grace of God by suffering in himself to overcome our suffering. The suffering of the utterly innocent and infinitely holy Son of God in the place of utterly undeserving sinners to bring us to everlasting joy is the greatest display of the glory of God's grace that ever was, or ever could be.**

- Rev.13:8 –the book of the Lamb that was slaughtered was written before the foundation of the earth**
- Rev.5:9-12 His suffering will be the theme of eternal praise**

# Why Is There Suffering?

- **7 Achievements Christ by His suffering**
  - 1. He absorbed the Wrath of God on our Behalf – Gal.3:13**
  - 2. He bore our sins and purchased our forgiveness – 1Pet.2:24**
  - 3. He provided a perfect Righteousness for us that becomes ours in Him – Phil.2:7-8; Rom.5:19**
  - 4. He defeated death – Heb.2:14-15; 1Cor.15:55-57**
  - 5. He disarmed Satan – Col.2:14-15**
  - 6. He purchased perfect final healing for all His people – Isa.53:5; Rev.7:17**
  - 7. He will bring us finally to God – 1 Pet.3:18**

# How Does Suffering Shape Us for Mission?

- 1. Our sufferings enable us to comfort others who are suffering – 2 Cor.1:3-7**
- 2. Suffering is to enhance community love – Gal.6:2**
  - The church is meant to be a place of refuge for those who are suffering**
- 3. As we identify with Christ in His suffering, we will also be glorified with Christ.**
  - Rom.8:17-18**
  - 2Cor.4:17-18**

# How Does Suffering Shape Us for Mission?

**4. By allowing our suffering to be a reminder that the best is yet to come.**

- **2 Cor.4:6-5:5**
- **1Cor.15:35-37**
- **1Cor.15:50-58**