

Study Guide for the Week of October 29, 2006

“Overcoming Life”

This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use!

Monday-Memorization passage for this week.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33, NIV). This passage is an important tool. Knowing that we will have trouble, but that Jesus overcomes that trouble, is a source of great comfort. *Memorize this and put it in your spiritual toolbox.*

Tuesday

Read **2 Corinthians 1:3-7** in the New Testament. Paul wrote these words to encourage people that were suffering. He is letting them know that God has not abandoned them, but is very much with them! Furthermore, the comfort that God is giving them will help them to comfort others. What tragedy or suffering have you gone through in life? How did it affect you? Are you better able to console others that are going through similar suffering? Ask God to help you bless someone else because of suffering you have gone through.

Wednesday

Read **2 Corinthians 1:8-11** in the New Testament. Paul continues the passage from yesterday expressing that he was suffering to the point that he thought he was going to die. Notice the effect this had on him. Instead of turning from God because of his suffering, it caused him to turn toward God as his only source of hope! This is very important because each of us will face suffering. Christians are not immune to suffering, but we are given the strength to get through it. Spend time in prayer asking God to help you to be ready for the difficult times.

Thursday

Read **Romans 5:1-5** in the New Testament. One again we see that being a Christian does not mean that we will be free from suffering. What does this passage say that suffering will bring? Have you seen this happen in your life or the life of someone else?

Friday

Read **Revelation 21:1-5** in the New Testament. This passage from the last book of the Bible gives us ultimate hope. While we will have times of suffering in this life and in this world, we are people who live within the promise that this life and this world is not all there is. God will bring all suffering to an end. Reread this passage. How does it offer you hope in the face of suffering? Be prepared to share your hope with those who might need it now more than ever.