



27 Discipleship & Suffering
Romans 8:16-27
Sunday August 11, 2019
Courage Church, Detroit, MI

I am really excited to be back on Romans today. Dawn and I were traveling last Sunday, we spoke at a church in Fruitport, MI who had sent workers several times to help us build the fence and the pergola at the Reconciliation Table, and so we were there just sharing about the project, the

heart behind it, and to thank them for all that they did.

Thank you for being gracious and allowing us to be away for that. We are here this week and next, then in two weeks we will hear from Chris, then Dawn and I are here for a while straight. We are looking forward to having church over labor day weekend AT the reconciliation table!

These next couple of weeks in Romans are really important weeks. Today is going to be a pretty vulnerable message, Dawn and I have been going through a lot lately, and today will be a bit of a reflection of that... and next week will be a bit more theological of a message but it will be a VERY IMPORTANT theological message.

What we will find both this week AND next week, is that Paul, here toward to end of Romans 8, gives us some conclusions to some of the groundwork that he laid for us in Romans 5. In Romans 5, he began by talking about suffering and how it produces HOPE, which HE COMES BACK TO AND EXPLAINS FURTHER in the passage we are about to read... and then he goes on to talk about the problem of Adam, which he brings full circle in the passage we will read next week.

A couple of months ago we did two sermons called "Adam & Jesus" - it was the 18th and 19th sermons in this series... and if you need a refresher on those I recommend you go back and listen again to them leading up to next

week, because next week will conclude that concept for us as we approach the end of Romans 8.

Romans 8 is one of the most theologically significant chapters in the entire Bible, from start to finish. We are trying to take it slow enough to grasp it, yet not live there forever either.

So today we are going to from verse 16 through verse 27.

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Future Glory

¹⁸ **For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.** ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. **Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?** ²⁵ **But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.**

²⁶ **Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.** ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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We are a people who believe that God not only meets us in the broken places of our hearts but He works through those broken places in order to

bring healing not only TO YOU *in your life*, and the things that YOU are going through... but also TO OTHERS... *THROUGH YOU*.

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A lot of you who are close to Dawn and I or have even gotten into close proximity to us these last couple of weeks likely have seen and felt *the weight* that we are carrying right now. In our faith journey... our marriage... our family... IN our attempts at pastoring and dreaming for this community and loving others and trying to be there for everyone... we literally hit a wall... a wall that we felt like we couldn't get over on our own and so we made a few drastic immediate changes and have sought some help for other areas that may take a bit more time to work through.

We were sitting at the Reconciliation Table launch... I looked around and my heart was so full because so many people rallied together to create something that we believed was in God's heart for a very long time for our community. At that event, even though it was thank meant to just be a feast to introduce our church to the table, we had NINE visitors from the neighborhood walk up and join us. It is rare that we see that many visitors on a Sunday or even over a few Sunday's - and we saw it happen without even telling anyone that we were going to be there.

It was a picture of what we see our community becoming. A body of people COMPLETELY IMMERSSED IN THE COMMUNITY. I was really excited, and still am, to see the ways that God has moved and is now continuing to move as we open this public space with the purpose of bringing our brokenness to the table and finding restoration and reconciliation.

Then I woke up Monday with this sinking feeling in my gut that my own life, and my own family was not doing okay in spite of the fact that so many goals had been achieved and so much momentum was forming around the thing that God put in our hearts to do...

Just to give you guys a bit of a window into our lives...

Dawn's grandpa is on what Doctors say is his death bed. They give him just a few days to live... and our niece... Dawn's sister's daughter... five year

old Olivia... she had what seemed to be mono, and it didn't go away, and then she got an infection...

and then her heart began to fail.

And after being in ICU for several weeks they got her heart to a more stable place... but she keeps landing back in the hospital... we were up there most of the day with them yesterday.

and they just told the family that she is officially on the heart transplant list.

it's been a roller coaster but that is the next step... for a five year old. And when I take the time to process the thought of *that*, it's absolutely heartbreaking...

but we were barely dealing with any of these things, we were barely talking about them even though we knew that they were going on. We weren't ignoring them... but we weren't giving ourselves the time to truly FEEL what was going on.

add to that a few relational issues we are facing, and some transitions happening here that have been weighing on us a bit... we just sort of got lost in it all.

for us, it just sort of was one of those things where:

you start to notice things in your family... in your marriage... things that are going unchecked and not being worked out and its just adding up and at the same time we are just pushing and pushing... and we do this amazing backpack giveaway... and we throw this incredible banquet that was literally the image of what has been in our heads for years now.

and we sort of distracted ourselves from some things that we needed to work out, with other things that were definitely very important... but not the most important.

and this realization hit me harder than just about anything ever has... that we could reconcile the whole world, and our own could fall apart.... the

people who God has given us DIRECT responsibility over could be in shambles at the same time that we are working to restore everyone else.

And it's one thing if the affect of our faithfulness to the call of God leads us to a place where we suffer, like we talked about in the last Romans message.

it's another thing entirely if it is caused purely by neglect... which is where I found myself a couple weeks ago... and honestly I can say its where the CHURCH of America finds itself in today.

and I can say this about myself today, but hopefully you have some context for how to apply it to your life tomorrow and the church as a whole moving forward...

but I am not a martyr, and I am not a HERO... IF I sacrifice my family on the altar of ministry.

I am a person with an off balanced life, who needs to repent of it and ask Jesus to do a miracle in my life and bring wholeness to the areas that I have let get out of control.

And I HAVE done that, and I am doing that now before you all. Jesus is the only hope for our world and he is the only hope for me.

and I speak from my own circumstances with the hopes that you will allow me to speak INTO YOURS... and into the condition of our world right now.

We, as a body... as a corporate global church have ignored some pretty significant blows that have come against humanity in general, while we have worked toward our own objectives... and our own goals... and our own sheltered agendas.

We have created this world where we think that: WHEN a person has fully attained *separation* from the world and stops doing all the things that the world does, that we have made a disciple of Jesus.

Discipleship to most people is *that*... it is teaching people to live apart from the world - like... IF we get it right IN HERE then we are getting it right.

BUT we view discipleship TOTALLY DIFFERENT THAN THAT at this church.

We view Discipleship... *not*, as we talked about a couple of months ago... *creating cookie cutter replicas of unique people*... the job of the church is NOT to strip you of what makes you unique, in order to fit you into a mold that works for us.

it is also NOT neglecting parts of your life and letting them get unhealthy, while you read your Bible twice as much and pray more.

A disciple IS a person who has experienced wholeness in Jesus Christ... which puts them in a position where THEY CAN BE USED BY GOD.

I don't want you to be just like me... I WANT YOU TO BE THE YOU **THAT YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO BE.**

The point of discipleship is pulling out IN you the things that make you, you... developing your life so that you, as a unique individual, can become the person who reaches the world in a way that ONLY YOU CAN REACH IT.

Discipleship is about first recognizing that you are broken... that the world is broken... but then also realizing that YOU CAN BE WHOLE IN JESUS... and you can be a part of making the world WHOLE in Jesus. And that process from brokenness to wholeness in Jesus is the discipleship process.

and what we find time and time again through the scriptures is that God uses the times that we want to give up... the hard times... the times it FEELS like we are suffering, OR TRULY ARE SUFFERING... to develop us into the person that *someone else needs*, in order to see Jesus in the way that they need to see Him.

But part of that process is diagnosing the things in you that are preventing you from being who you are called to be... and working those things out. Because at the end of the day, the church truly is the hope of the world... and that is you and I... and if all the world ever knows of us is all of the things that we are against, then HONESTLY... we aren't disciples of Jesus. Jesus met people right where they are and picked them up no matter what they have done. In fact, the people who He was most vocally against were the religious people doing things in the name of God that were turning the rest of the world OFF TO GOD.

Now, I say all that to say this:

I want this passage in Romans to NOT be information to you. I want you to hear this, and apply every stinking word of it to your life. I want you to realize that there are going to be moments in life that you don't know what to do... the answer will be BEYOND YOU... it will be beyond the council that you receive...

and yet THERE IS AN ANSWER... and even when you NEVER find that answer... there is still something that can be developed in you through the circumstances you are facing.

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So there is a specific concept that Paul uses several times in this passage, you likely noticed it as I read... that is the concept of GROANING.

To **groan** is "to make a sound of pain or disapproval that doesn't consist of words"

It is that "there are no words" moment... it's the speechless times when you are stopped dead in your tracks and you need something to change but you can't quite communicate it because you aren't quite sure you know what can even be done. It is exactly where Dawn and I found ourselves last week...

It's also a great portrait of our world right now. In fact, the very first thing that Paul says is groaning... is the world. is everyone! He says:

ALL CREATION GROANS.

I think of the news just yesterday, when Jeffrey Epstein, convicted sex offender involved deeply in the world of human trafficking... of the sex trafficking of children... a multimillionaire with deep deep political ties and friends in all the places... somehow, when he should have been on suicide watch, “APPARENTLY” KILLED HIMSELF from his prison cell.

and dying with him likely so much information that could have helped us save so many lives from the worst kind of pain... AND convict and put away so many others who have gotten away with pure evil for years and years.

what is everybody saying? GIVE US ANSWERS.

HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

IT IS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE.

but what can we do? everyone is just standing there with their jaws on the floor in disbelief that the world is the way that it is.

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I think of the absolute tragedies that have filled our world... last weekend two mass shootings. Over 30 people were killed.

I read that 2 countries last week issued travel warnings for its citizens traveling to the United States, because of the state of our nation right now. Some of the things noted in the alert as a warning to avoid our country, was:

“indiscriminate possession of firearms by the population” and

“the **impossibility** of authorities to prevent these situations”

they are telling people that “*if you go* to that country, you could be anywhere at any time and someone could have a gun... and the authorities are not equipped to handle it *should someone decide* to do something” -

and IF THAT is the reality that we are living in right now... then of course all of creation would groan... because you groan when you have nothing else to say. You groan when you are gripped by fear and you don't know where you can put your hope.

Uruguay's warning specifically told people to avoid our city... to avoid Detroit.

There was a false alarm of a shooting in time square on Tuesday, a motorcycle backfired and it sounded like gunfire... watch this brief video of it:

<<VIDEO>>

we used to have a motorcycle and at one point there was an issue that caused it to do *that*... its very loud and alarming... but it happens... but when it happened in a public space with the world on high alert, what you end up with is thousands of people just fleeing... just scattering - absolutely panicked that their life is about to taken from them by someone that they don't even know, FOR NOTHING THAT THEY DID.

We are living our lives on guard knowing that the world is not as it should be.

but note this about verse 22:

“For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.”

the pains that the world is experiencing... are pains of child birth.

Now, the common understanding of this is the one that I hold, though I will add a few thoughts to it. The common takeaway here is that when you give birth, it is the most excruciating thing that a person will ever go through...

yet women opt to do it because its not pain without hope... its pain that does come to an end, and the end result is a child - the most incredible thing in the whole world.

The only difference is, I would argue that most of creation, though they have some sort of an expectation of something to come, they don't really know what it is. I am not sure most Christians even know what it is.

But remember, Paul is constantly doing a retelling of the Genesis story here in Romans... and in Genesis, the cultural mandate was "to be fruitful and multiply" - but when Adam and Eve ate the fruit, something that God said would happen was **NOW THERE WOULD BE PAIN IN GIVING BIRTH.**

So now, just to fulfill the mandate and the process of the created order, there is constantly **PAIN.** Just to move the world forward... **IS PAINFUL.**

again... the world is **BROKEN.**

all of creation is groaning in such a way that they don't know how to handle the pain that they are feeling... yet there is an **EXPECTATION THAT THERE IS MORE...** that there is something better coming... that there is hope that the world will not be this way forever.

But then it says **UNTIL NOW...**

For Paul, there is always this "already but not yet" mindset. The Kingdom of God is here... Jesus came proclaiming it and the church are ambassadors of it here and now... but more is coming.

It is easy as Christians to focus on the **MORE THAT IS COMING,** and miss the **NOW.**

But the way that this progresses is very important. In verse 16-17, Paul establishes a very important fact:

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God,** ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with

Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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Paul tells us that WE ARE the children of God. Provided we suffer with him.

Then in verse 18 he goes on to say that whatever we may face... in whatever ways we may be suffering now... that in NO WAY COMPARES TO THE GLORY THAT IS GOING TO BE REVEALED TO US...

but then in verse 19 it says:

“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.”

Now, hear me out *here*:

CREATION... life... people... the world... there is an eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God... but just two verses earlier... Paul says YOU ARE THE SONS OF GOD. We are children of God.

There is actually a verse in 1 John 3 (:2) that says “we are God’s children NOW - yet what we WILL BE has not appeared yet.” -

so there is this looming reality that God is going to do something in us that will bring us to completion... fullness... there is a blessed hope to look forward to...

but we don’t need to wait until we get to heaven to do that... yes... something more is coming...more is coming in eternity... more is coming in this life...

but we are God’s children NOW. We are the ones that the world is looking for, now, even if they don’t know it... and we are here to bring the broken world back to wholeness... we are here TO DISCIPLE THE WORLD.

To help it find completion... and fullness. WE ARE WHAT THE WORLD LOOKS FORWARD TO. WHAT THE HOPE FOR even if they don't know it.

it is us.

The world is waiting for us to show up and do something that brings restoration and hope and love and unity... they are waiting for us to RESPOND TO THE BROKENNESS with the hope that we have.

so things in the world are so bad, that the whole world is waiting for the church to rise up and be who they are supposed to be... and Paul says that they will become that, *provided* that they experience suffering.

and I thought about this, and how Romans 5 actually tells us that suffering produces endurance... which produces character and ultimately hope... and I thought about that process of what it looks like to be a witness to God bringing you through something that you know you could never bring yourself through... and what that does to your faith... and it all just came together so much more for me.

About how God leads us through dark moments not only to SHOW US that He is bigger than them... but also SO WE CAN SHOW THE WORLD that there is hope in all of the darkest places.

how can we minister to a world that knows *nothing* of wholeness... IF WE KNOW NOTHING OF THEIR BROKENNESS?

Notice how it says first that creation groans...

Then it says, in verse 23, that WE GROAN.

“we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

We groan, because we see the same world that everybody else sees. We experience the same brokenness that everyone else experiences. It should break our hearts to see the world in the state that it is in.

The only difference is, WE GROAN... but we have hope... we have the first fruits of the Spirit - the first fruit was always the part of the harvest that came up before the rest of the harvest... and when you gave it, you gave it having absolute faith that God was going to bring an amazing harvest that year for you.

This is saying that there is hope in the midst of the groaning that a harvest is coming and that God is going to do what God said that He was going to DO.

Note how it then says we wait eagerly for the redemption of our bodies... in 1 Corinthians 15:23 it actually says that JESUS is the FIRST FRUITS OF THE RESURRECTION... meaning that He was given... and then He resurrected as that seed so that EVERYONE ELSE COULD ALSO FIND NEW LIFE in the same way that He did.

Then verse 24 says that “hope that is seen is not hope” - if we see it, we already know its there... we have already experienced it.

Notice this correlation between groaning and hope. Between not knowing how to respond... yet having hope to know that it won't be this way forever... and even having a sense that WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE PART OF ENSURING THAT IT DOES NOT STAY THIS WAY FOREVER.

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I think that most Christians have grown content going to church while the rest of the world burns. And that is why we don't speak up when bad things happen...

we, as a body, behave just like I did as we went through life focused on the thing that was right in front of us... focusing on building a table and ignoring the fact that so many other things were falling apart... as if we can find healing in one area by succeeding in another... IT DOES NOT WORK THAT WAY.

if the world is falling apart and the church stands by and does nothing, because we have a cool service or a cool experience where we all feel

good about ourselves but don't actually contribute to anything's progress... then the church has failed.

anytime that we can PROCLAIM with our mouths... OR OUR LIFESTYLE - that something has to change IN SOMEBODY ELSE... but we ourselves not be willing to give up our own rights or our own comforts or our own security to see that thing changed...

then we are part of the problem.

Suffering like Jesus in our context DOES NOT MEAN fighting for the things that we think we deserve as Christians or think we are owed as Americans and then being upset when those things are taken away from us. Suffering like Jesus means laying down the things that WE HOLD SACRED so that others may experience HOPE in a world where they simply can not see any hope.

And we can offer that to them because we have been through the crucible, and we have seen the way that Jesus has lifted us through the moments that we can't carry ourselves.

And my challenge to you today is to think about whether YOUR Gospel is about you, or whether your Gospel is about bringing wholeness to the broken world...

is the Gospel true, so that you can have the life that you want? or is the Gospel so that God can restore the world to the way that HE CREATED IT TO BE... and if you believe that it is the latter... THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO BE A PART OF RESTORING THAT WORLD?

Romans 8:18 says "whatever it is you that you suffer from here... IT DOES NOT COMPARE TO THE GLORY" - it does not compare to where we are going... it does not compare to the world that God is working to re-create... AND IT IS WORTH WHATEVER IT COSTS YOU AND I - to see His Kingdom come in our world.

And if we are going to be one of those churches who is going to throw a party in a sanctuary proclaiming how great God is and never do anything to

show the world how great God is, then please... lets lock the doors, and give the building to some social group who will use it for something that helps others... and we can sing cum by ah on an island somewhere that it never snows and create our perfect utopia world.

THE GOSPEL IS NOT COMFORTABLE.

and if we truly believe it... we can't just say nothing about innocent people being murdered on a routine trip to walmart.

we can't just say "oh... thats sad... but it happens."

we can't just say nothing, and do nothing... as the people who literally live in the houses on our streets, IN THIS VERY NEIGHBORHOOD are having their families split apart by unjust laws that make broad statements about families that, if it were handled case by case and with grace and compassion we would see a very different outcome.

We have a teacher here, who teaches here in Southwest at one of the public schools, and he was saying that over there they writes more character reference letters to prevent parents of students from being deported than they do college letters of recommendation.

And I love that we have people on the ground doing that work... fighting for families, standing up for people - but at some point we need to collectively realize that the world is not going to change UNLESS WE DO...

and character references are good (and sometimes the only hope for a family staying together), but ultimately we need to come to a day when families aren't worried about being forced apart, and they can focus on things like working toward going to college, because they don't have to worry about who is going to knock on their door *this evening* when they get home.

It is great to pray for the victims of these awful mass shootings but at some point we need to wake up to the reality that the world does not have to be this way... it is on that path described in Romans 1... it is the way of Cain... the way that has removed God and replaced Him with all of these things

and IF THE WORLD CONTINUES THIS WAY WE EVENTUALLY WE WILL RUN OUT OF WORLD TO LOVE AND TO REACH.

It is like what Martin Luther King Jr. said about the Good Samaritan story. He acknowledged first, of course, that everyone wants to be a Good Samaritan... something along those lines... everyone wants to do the right thing when the wrong circumstances present themselves for someone and you have a chance to show up... we all want to help every chance we get... it is such an influential story that has lead to many great examples of people doing the right thing by somebody else.

but then Martin Luther King said something very profound and it rings so true today. He said:

“I am tired of seeing people battered and bruised and bloody, injured and jumped on, along the Jericho Roads of life. This road is dangerous. I don't want to pick up anyone else, along this Jericho Road; I want to fix... the Jericho Road. I want to pave the Jericho Road, add street lights to the Jericho Road; make the Jericho Road safe (for passage) by everybody....”

What do we do? what can we do?

I DON'T KNOW.

Gosh... I wish I could tell you how to rebuild the road. I would say that it is likely that it will happen slowly... a little bit at a time...

a light at a time... in Detroit I am sure it is a pothole at a time...

it will happen by not growing weary of doing good...

By not being afraid to speak against the systems that are built to oppress people... that are fueled by the BODY OF SIN that we talked about in Romans 6 - the world that is not as it should be...

And you all know me... I refuse the tell you to do the Spiritual thing if there is a practical step... and seeking out that practical step is part of the way that you and I live the Gospel to our broken world... but we can't ignore the

last part about groaning... it says creation groans... likewise, WE GROAN...

and finally, it says:

THE SPIRIT GROANS.

I don't think that we need to get into the theology of this entire concept, we have done teachings on it before...

But this is that part that matters when you are faced with something SO BIG, like fixing the Jericho road.

Like helping solve a problem like human trafficking, or racism, or the mass killings of innocent people, or the unborn...

or the rebuilding of a city like Detroit...

Or the problem of homelessness, or the amount of kids in the foster care system with nobody to parent them...

It's for the moments when you know the practical thing that YOU can do to take one step... but it would a million steps to get to the bottom of it.

It is for the moments when your five year old niece is in ICU, and needs a heart transplant... and there is not a single thing that you can do besides show up and tell her that you love her.

you know, many people are so critical about the concept of speaking in tongues... because like so many other things, we have missed the point of it and have made it about the wrong things... AND I am not saying for sure that this passage is specifically ABOUT THAT... there is a lot of debate on that... but what I will say is that there is something that God wants to do in our world THROUGH US... that is so much bigger than us...

that we couldn't conjure it up if we spent our whole lives in an empty room and focused all of our mental energy on coming up with a solution.

Yet in those moments, when there is NO SOLUTION... we know that God has the solution. We know that the Holy Spirit has something to deposit in us... and when we don't know how to pray... when we don't know how we should be lead to help... when we don't know how to rebuild the entire Jericho road because we are sick and tired of seeing our neighbors get beat up every time they walk on it...

when our own families feel like they are falling apart... when our hearts are so broken, when we feel so alone... when all we can think of is that God brought us this far only to abandon us... WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO PRAY...

The Spirit will do it for you... with groaning too deep for words... praying exactly as we ought to... because if we try and do it ourselves... we won't even know how to pray.

I think that is why Paul says that he wished EVERYONE would speak in tongues -

because we don't know how to pray... just like we don't know what to do with our world.

but when we invite the Spirit into our prayer life... in those moments...

He knows how to pray...

and I believe that He will download into YOU what you can do to help bring the Kingdom of Heaven to earth, now.

listen.

We don't just let the Spirit AFFIRM IN US that everything is going to be okay...

we listen... and we act on what the Spirit speaks TO US, when He does... so that can be a part of healing the world.

if the Spirit says stand up for that person, stand up for them.

if the Spirit says turn left, drive four blocks then pull into 711 and go buy a slurpee and stand on your head when you drink it... then do it!

if the Spirit says give to that person, GIVE TO THAT PERSON.

if you recognize something and it is so broken, and you can't get it out of your head... and it breaks your heart... that's probably something that God wants you to have a hand in bringing restoration to... but we have to listen. Sometimes you have to do the things that you are prompted to do - and the more you respond, the more you will learn how to move when the Spirit is speaking.

Even looking back on Romans 5, in the process that leads to hope... it takes you through this process of suffering, to perseverance, to character... to hope... and it says HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT BECAUSE God's love is poured INTO our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

if you want to rebuild the entire road, you have got to realize that it can't be done without the Holy Spirit.

Let me tell you from experience... when you go after the big ones... when your Christianity is NOT CONTENT SIMPLY AND ONLY GOING TO CHURCH - you are going to have a target on your back. YOU WILL BE ATTACKED. There will be spiritual attacks. There will be attack's on your mind. You will find out real quick who your friends are.

Please do not take on the world without first partnering with the Holy Spirit. You can't do it. It will crush you. But I promise you that God wants JUSTICE even more than you do.

The reason that Jesus could plainly tell us that we will do even greater things than He did in His lifetime, is because there are so MANY OF US TO MOBILIZE, AND WE HAVE THE SAME HOLY SPIRIT OPERATING WITHIN US... we can NOT ignore Him when He prompts us!!! Because in Him is EVERY SOLUTION TO EVERY PROBLEM... and He wants to change the world through you...

Through the person who will do what He says.