

Three Ordinary Guys:

Paul is _____,

Timothy is _____,

Epaphroditus is _____.

A Key Point:

God promises to _____,

not _____ hardships.

Five Tough Questions / Five Strange Answers:

1. *Is sickness a sign of sin?*

_____ and _____.

2. *Do some people have a gift of healing?*

_____ and _____.

3. *Why are some people healed while others suffer?*

_____.

4. *How important is faith?*

It's _____ and _____.

5. *How should we respond to serious illness?*

With _____ & _____.

Questions for Further Study

For the week of February 6, 2011

1. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11. How is Paul's perspective contrary to how most of us normally think when facing physical or emotional challenges?

What part of this passage is most encouraging for you?

What part is most challenging?

If you are facing a great difficulty or a time of great suffering, what would you want someone to do (or not do) in their attempt to bring comfort or share in your suffering?

2. Prayer is one way we can come alongside someone who is ill or suffering. What does Luke 11:5-12 teach us about prayer and how does it apply to praying for those who are suffering or sick?

Have you found anything that helps you be persistent in praying for others?

What are some of the roadblocks that keep us from being persistent in prayer?

“Do not be deceived, Wormwood. Our cause is never more in danger than when a human, no longer desiring, but still intending, to do our Enemy's will, looks upon a universe from which every trace of God seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys.”

– From the Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

Three Ordinary Guys:

Paul is disheartened,

Timothy is dedicated,

Epaphroditus is distressed.

A Key Point:

God promises to get us through,
not keep us from hardships.

Five Tough Questions / Five Strange Answers:

6. *Is sickness a sign of sin?*

Sometimes and Always.

7. *Do some people have a gift of healing?*

Yes and No.

8. *Why are some people healed while others suffer?*

God only knows.

9. *How important is faith?*

It's essential and overrated.

10. *How should we respond to serious illness?*

With mercy & compassion.