



## **Siu Fung Wu – Joining Christ's sufferings and transformation of humanity**

### **Discussion Guide**

This resource is designed to help your small group or college class discussion. It's shaped to inspire you to consider new ways to understand the issues discussed in this video. You don't need to answer all the questions. Please allow time for discussion and response.

### **Materials**

1. Person Interviewed: Siu Fung Wu
2. Theme of Video: Joining Christ's sufferings and transformation of humanity

### **Preliminary discussion**

Consider the questions suggested below to start the conversation for your small group or college class. They'll consolidate the content of the video, after you've viewed it.

1. What were the major themes in this video?
2. How do those themes relate to your life and context?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is the interviewee's theology and outlook informed and shaped by their practical ministry and context? What approaches do they take in understanding God in the context of their daily life and ministry?

## Explore and apply

Explore the major themes raised in the video. Critically engage with the theology. Consider the questions that respond to the issues raised in your preliminary discussion. Apply the answers to these questions in your own setting. Ensure the discussion is specifically drawing on your local setting. Make sure the discussion is relevant to the lives of faith for your small group or college class. Encourage relevant and thoughtful examples from each participant.

1. Siu Fung's book is a revision of his PhD thesis. You can find the book here: <https://www.amazon.com/Suffering-Romans-Siu-Fung-Wu/dp/1498208738> – Why did he spend years of his life researching the topic of suffering?
2. Why suffering in Romans? Why not other books in the Bible, such as Job or Philippians?
3. Siu Fung worked in aid and development before. What does his book say about poverty and social injustice?
4. Siu Fung grew up in East Asia. What was his experience there, and how is his book relevant to his own experience?
5. Which key verses and passages in Romans address suffering?
6. People are very familiar with the passage in Romans 8, that says that we are more than conquerors, and that nothing can separate us from the love of God. What does that passage really say to us today?
7. Siu Fung says that the suffering of believers is a visible sign of the glory of God (page 123 of his book). What does he mean?
8. Was there an aha-moment for Siu Fung in his research, and what was it?
9. What real life examples of suffering—perhaps from his experience in Asia—does Siu Fung use to illustrate some of the things he has said?
10. Who should read Siu Fung's book?

## Informing Community

Facilitate the space for your group to respond to the discussion. You might consider this section as a personal time of written journal responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging our group and me, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I gain a better understanding of the issues discussed in this video? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

## Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you've learnt.

Invite the ministry of the Holy Spirit to clarify, heal, and inspire change for your participants and communities.

## Links

**Website:** [www.theglobalchurchproject.com](http://www.theglobalchurchproject.com)

**Books:**

Siu Fung Wu, *Suffering in Romans* – <https://www.amazon.com/Suffering-Romans-Siu-Fung-Wu/dp/1498208738>

Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2016)

Graham Hill, *Salt, Light, and a City (Second Edition): Ecclesiology for the Global Missional Community: Volume 1, Western Voices* (Cascade, 2017).