Pastor Will Sohnchen Sermon Outline – May 13, 2007 Living a Fruitful Life - Part 7 "Our Response to Suffering"

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, <u>longsuffering,</u> kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23

Longsuffering means... "Long Fuse or Long Temper"

"Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man. After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). The man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Mark 7:31-35

"Sighing"... "A hybrid between frustration and sadness. It lies between a fit of anger and a burst of tears"

The bible's position is _		
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"And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope."

Romans 5:3-4

Godly suffering exists to...

Test our
Deepen our
I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellow- ship of sharing in his sufferings"
Philippians 3:10
Our attitude in the midst of suffering
J
"Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice"
Philippians 4:4
"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds"
James 1:2
H
"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."
2 Corinthians 4:16-18
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"So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good."