March 14-15, 2020/Pastor David Thomas

The Discipline of Waiting
Psalm 130.5-6; 2 Corinthians 4.7-12

Introduction

I. God allows trouble but overcomes it
   A. Trouble is allowed within God’s p_________
   B. Trouble is r________ by God’s gracious hand
   C. Trouble g__________ God
   D. Trouble is t____________ by God

II. God allows trouble for our good
   A. Trouble warns us of d____________
   B. Trouble matures our f___________
   C. Trouble teaches us the s_________ of God
   D. Trouble allows us to m___________ to others

III. God allows trouble and we wait on Him
   A. The discipline of p___________
   B. The discipline of s_______________
   C. The discipline of c_______________
   D. The discipline of s______________

Conclusion:

Questions for reflection or small group discussion

• How has waiting on God been forced on you in the past? How are we experiencing it just now?
• What is your response when God allows trouble?
• Can you look back at some troubles in your life and think about why God might have allowed them?
• What lessons are learned from the history of Israel?
• Do you believe that God restrains trouble? How so?
• Are good and evil welcome forces in the world?
• How has trouble changed or matured you?
• What dangers might trouble be a warning of for us?
• Can you define the sovereignty of God?
• How will you pray during this current trouble?
• How will you discipline yourself to pray?
• How can you love/care for others during this trouble?
• How might we learn from the church in China when the government there made it illegal to attend public worship services?
• How might it be possible for you to use the enforced solitude or silence that you might experience in the near future as a spiritual discipline?