

# “What Can Christianity Do for Me?”

1 Cor. 12:26-27; 2 Cor. 12:9

INTRODUCTION: *“Early to bed, early to rise...”*

## I. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CAN INCLUDE SUFFERING

- A. Faith is not a magic cure for difficulty
- B. There was a controversy in Corinth about suffering
- C. Note - 1 Cor. 12:26-27 & 2 Cor. 12:9
- D. The authentic Christian life is **like a storm** - God is in the storm, Satan is in the storm, & Jesus is there with you in the storm.
- E. *Martin Luther King* and “the mountaintop”

## II. CHRISTIANITY DOESN'T OFFER A PAINKILLER, IT OFFERS VICTORY

- A. Christianity is not some cheap escape from reality
- B. Jesus brings victory, not escape
- C. We ought to stop playing games in our church
- D. St. Paul stopped “playing games” & won a victory
- E. The true blessing of faith: **God's grace**
  - 1. God's stooping down to us (Hosea 11:1-4)
  - 2. God's devotion to us (Isa. 49:15-16)
  - 3. The person of Jesus (John 1:14)

CONCLUSION: *The sermon from the special needs hand bell choir*