**Questions asked:**

1. Why is pain/suffering/evil so disturbing?
2. Why might pain/suffering lead one to doubt the existence of God of the bible?
3. What does the bible teach us about suffering?
	1. Where did suffering come from?
	2. What does/can suffering do? (i.e. uses of suffering)
	3. Where is suffering going?
	4. What does God promise sufferers?

**Feedback**

“I came to this session as it’s one of the first questions I ever asked when I did the Alpha course. I had made a decision to trust God and in listening and seeing the verses from the Bible this affirmed my decision.”

“I will be going away from the session to digest more thoroughly the Bible verses that came up. It was helpful in laying out the foundation to other Christians but I’m not sure how helpful it would have been for non-Christians.”

“I would have like to experience more practical applications in how we can talk to others who are going through suffering, what do we say when someone has just lost a child?”

“I wish there had been more time for us to look at the Bible verses in more detail, also due to the filming aspect I’m not sure how comfortable people were in asking questions.”

“As someone who has looked at this in a very close up and personal way I had already come to the conclusion about trusting in God through the suffering, that I will trust God and come what may I will praise him, or I hope I will, If I lost everything, I still hope I could”

“For people who are in a place of fear I’m not sure whether they would have been able to grapple with everything tonight.”

“Mike Stevens said something at the Leaders weekend about a butterfly not being able to fly if someone let it out of it’s cocoon, some sort of chemical reaction takes place when it breaks out and only that makes it able to fly. I immediately related that to suffering – God wants us to become more beautiful in his sight.”

**What does God promise?**

1. He cares
2. He is with us
3. He graces us
4. He empathises
5. He is in control
6. A future