



CROSSWALK COMMUNITY CHURCH

At Crosswalk church, we believe prayer is our lifeline to God. We strive to be a praying church, living in a relationship with God and seeking to hear His voice.

We are enlisting people to pray before our services on Sunday and to be available to pray with those who need prayer after the services each week.

For those who are interested, Pastor Briant is offering training on Saturday May 20 at 10 am over zoom. If you're interested please sign up using the QR code provided.

Blessings!



CROSSWALK COMMUNITY CHURCH VBS

READY, SET, MOVE!

FOLLOW JESUS HERE,
THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

DATE: JULY 10 - 14TH

TIME: 9AM - 12:30PM

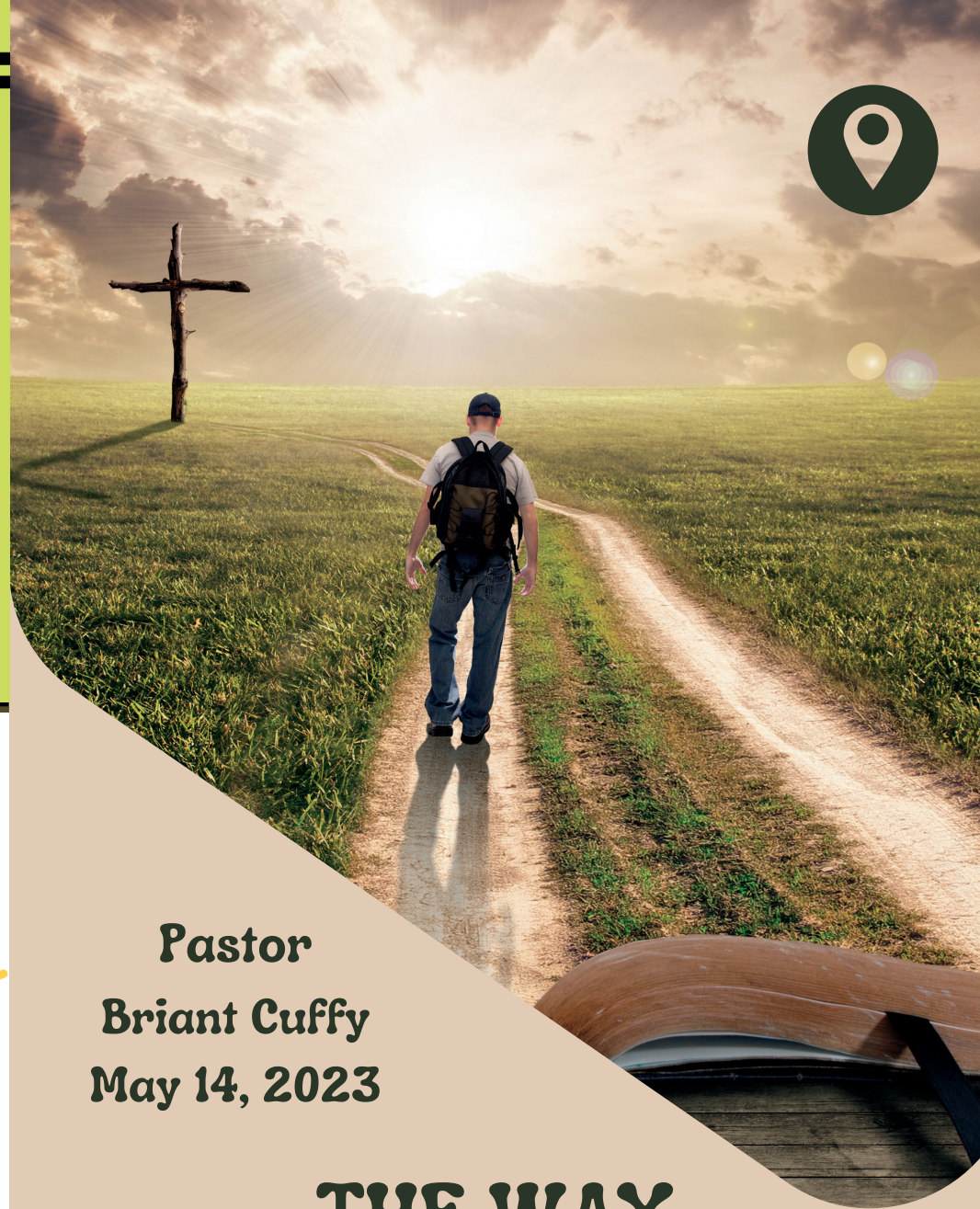
LOCATION: CROSSWALK COMMUNITY CHURCH

PRICE: \$25 FOR ONE KID
\$20 PER TWO OR MORE KIDS

Volunteer Training: May 21 after service



Sign up for VBS @ www.crosswalkchurch.com



**Pastor
Briant Cuffy
May 14, 2023**

THE WAY

WHY FOLLOWING JESUS IS NOT SAFE

EMBRACE THE MESS

ROMANS 8:26-30

Romans 8:26-30

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.



Happy
MOTHER'S DAY



Stop by for photo-op
on your way out

Gifts for all women will be
outside after service



**INTERNATIONAL
SUNDAY
MAY 28**

Celebrating diversity within
Crosswalk Church and our Community

All are invited to dress in traditional clothing, bring a flag of your country, and an international dish to share after church



Journey Notes

Why do Christians suffer? Our answer will be based on one of two assumptions:

- (1) God has made us to be happy, comfortable, and exempt from pain.
- (2) God has made us for himself—to know him and love him.

Our response to suffering is based on these assumptions. If God made us mainly to be happy, then He also has an obligation to remove all discomfort from our lives, so that we can be happy. On the other hand, if His purpose is that we know and love him, then our suffering serves a higher purpose.

To this point, Paul writes, “All who desire to live a godly life will suffer persecution” (2 Tim. 3:12). He means by this, God uses pain and trials to chisel into us his image, forming us into Christ's likeness.

This means we need to embrace the mess. That does not mean we like suffering, pain, or trials, (I certainly don't feel that way when I am being tested) but it means we trust in God's sovereign hands.

Here are three false ideas about trials, suffering, or tribulations we must rid from our thinking:

- (1) If I suffer, I will lose my faith and turn from God.
- (2) If I suffer, God must not love me after all.
- (3) If I suffer, people will think I have sinned against God in some way.

While it's human and natural to think of our suffering in this way, God's rule over us prevents all these from being true. In Rom. 8:39, Paul says that God's sovereign love covers every inch of our lives.

This means, not only is suffering can turn us to God. In our suffering, we come to experience a deeper love of Christ than comfort does not afford us (see Phil. 3:10)

Life is messy, but God is good. This means, trials are not meant to break us, but to bend and shape us into the likeness of God himself. So, by embracing the mess, we are seeking God and our purpose.

Praying with you,
Pastor Briant



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Sermon Notes

(1) The Holy Spirit Offers Help (V.26-27)

(2) God is Forming His Image in Us (V.28-30)

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