

November 16, 2014

Respect my boss, even if he isn't fair.

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. 1 Peter 2:18 (ESV)

Who are the servants?

We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine 1 Timothy 1:9–10 (NIV)

Bondservants, obey <u>in everything</u> those who are your earthly masters, <u>not by way of eye-service</u>, <u>as people-pleasers</u>, <u>but with sincerity of heart</u>, <u>fearing the Lord</u>. Colossians 3:22 (ESV)

Do I have to keep working for a <u>crooked</u> boss?

Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.)
1 Corinthians 7:21 (ESV)

Sometimes I suffer because I bring it on myself.

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. 1 Peter 2:19–20 (ESV)

I bring suffering on myself when I <u>reap</u> what I <u>sow</u>.

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, <u>for whatever one sows, that will</u> <u>he also reap</u>. Galatians 6:7 (ESV)

I bring suffering on myself when God <u>justly</u> <u>punishes</u> <u>sin</u>.

In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and <u>received in themselves the due penalty for their error.</u> Romans 1:27 (NIV)

I bring suffering on myself when, like a good father, God needs to break my love of sin.

For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and <u>chastises every son whom</u> <u>he receives</u>." Hebrews 12:6 (ESV)

Sometimes I don't deserve to suffer.

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. 1 Peter 2:19–20 (ESV)

Enduring unjust suffering is a gracious thing in the eyes of God.

"If you love those who love you, what **benefit** is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what **benefit** is that to you? For even sinners do the same... But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Luke 6:32–35 (ESV)

Face undeserved suffering like <u>Jesus</u> faced undeserved suffering knowing I will be <u>rewarded</u> for <u>patiently enduring</u>.

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2:23 (ESV)

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. Isaiah 53:7 (ESV)

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:8–11 (ESV)

I am called to a life of <u>undeserved</u> <u>suffering</u> where I handle it like <u>Jesus</u>.

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you. leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 1 Peter 2:21 (ESV)

- 1. We are called to a life of undeserved suffering, just like Jesus... Expect my boss won't be fair.
- 2. God calls me to patiently endure unjust suffering while entrusting myself into God's hands and continuing to do good like Jesus, knowing he will reward me for how I handle it.
- 3. God uses our patient endurance in suffering to reconcile people to himself.



How Do I Face Undeserved Suffering?



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