

Where is God in Our Suffering?

With Ryan O'Hara

Reflective Questions

“When you pass through waters, I will be with you; through rivers, you shall not be swept away,” Is. 43:2.

1. Ryan shares difficulties he experienced in his relationship with his earthly father because of his father's Alzheimer's disease. He says that we often tend to project the experiences we have with our earthly fathers onto the image of what it means for God to be our Father. What qualities of your earthly father might influence your view of God as your Father?
2. When we say that God is compassionate, we mean that He is deeply moved to action in the midst of suffering. What actions has He taken toward you when you have suffered in the past? What actions might He be taking toward you in present sufferings?
3. As we journey through our suffering, God provides the most wonderful nourishment for our souls in the Eucharist. How can you rely on this nourishment more deeply in times of suffering?
4. When we are suffering, we might feel as if we are alone. But we can be assured that God is always right there with us when we are suffering. In what pain in your life right now might you most need to look for God?