

Benefits of Belonging to the Lord

- You have been faithful but.....
 - Thorn in the flesh *2 Cor 12:7*
 - Evil is against you
 - God hurts when you hurt
 - Consider it joy when you face trials *James 1:2-6 & 2 Cor 12:8-10*

Benefits of Belonging to the Lord

1. Offers Spiritual Surgery

- Is God an ambulance driver?
- Is God a surgeon?
- Who cuts out our suffering?
- Who places the “Junior Mint” where it miraculously helps?

Benefits of Belonging to the Lord

2. Gives Us Our Purpose or Mission

- Uniquely wired and placed by God for His glory
Acts 17:26-27
- God is behind the biology
- You are formed with your traits and talents by God for His use *Psalm 139:13-16*

Benefits of Belonging to the Lord

3. We Get God Himself (i.e. His attributes)

- His steadfast love
- His mercy and grace
- His justice
- The privileges of community
- We are blameless/faultless in His sight

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4. Gives Us Deep Hope

- God is enough regardless of life's circumstances
- A longing to fulfill our hurt, our angst
- A direction when we find ourselves in difficulties

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- 5. Repeated Rejuvenation (i.e. revival, rebirth, etc.)**
- **For those who trust**
 - **We all get the promise of refreshing times**
 - **God deals well with our afflictions**

Benefits of Belonging to the Lord - Table Talk

A. Pick any and discuss

1. Offers Spiritual Surgery
2. Gives Us Purpose/Mission
3. We Get God Himself
4. Gives Us Deep Hope
5. Repeated Rejuvenation

OR

B. Matt sums up using the “umbrella” analogy that there is a ceiling to our enjoyment. The home cooked steak example. Discuss your thoughts.