

Discussion Questions for Families and Groups

Open It!

When was the last time you were surprised by something unexpected?

Consider It!

Why are Christ-followers surprised when they experience trials or difficulties?

How are the benefits of suffering cause for joy (v. 13)?

- 1 Peter 1:3-7
- Romans 5:3-5
- James 1:2-4

How have you grown in faith because of something you have suffered?

Why are we considered blessed when insulted (v.14; Rom. 5:7)?

Have you ever been ashamed of being a Christian (v.16)?
When?

What time is it for God's people (v.17)? For what do you think we have to give an account? Why?

What does it mean to suffer according to God's will (v.19)?

Live It!

How should you view your suffering differently because of God's word?

Write a note of encouragement to a student who is facing ridicule for their faith in Christ.

Pray for the persecuted using the Open Doors prayer app.

Studies in First Peter

Sharing Christ's Sufferings

1 Peter 4:12-19

September 19 & 20, 2020

Sermon Question

How should I respond to suffering?

Respond to Suffering with Confidence!

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1 Peter 4:12 (NIV)

Respond to Suffering with Joy!

But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

1 Peter 4:13 (NIV)

Respond to Suffering with Honor!

If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

1 Peter 4:14-16 (NIV)

Respond to Suffering with Resolve!

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 4:12-19 (NIV)

Respond to Suffering with Compassion!

For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

1 Peter 4:17-18 (NIV)

My Next Step!