

FIRST PETER

<p>1:1 - 2:10</p> <p>Called to Hope</p> <p>A Living Hope (1:1-12) Be Holy (1:13-21) Long for the Word (1:22-2:4) Living Stones (2:4-10)</p>	<p>2:11 - 4:6</p> <p>Called to Mission</p> <p>Engaging Exiles (2:11-12) Submit to Authority (2:13-18) Suffer like Jesus (2:19-25) Submission in Marriage (3:1-7) Blessing & Suffering (3:8-17) Christ Suffered for Us (3:18-22) Suffer Well (4:1-6)</p>	<p>4:7 - 5:14</p> <p>Called to the Church</p> <p>Leaning in & Loving (4:7-11) Suffering & Glory (4:12-19) Elder Shepherding (5:1-4) Put on Humility (5:5-11) Stand Firm in Grace (5:12-14)</p>
--	---	--



First Peter

Sunday, May 1, 2016

First Peter is a book rich in truth and practical application. The subject of suffering is dealt with in every one of the 5 chapters. The book really is like a manual for Christian suffering. Here's what it gives us . . .

I. A _____ for Suffering

1. God _____ our suffering.
2. God _____ our suffering.
3. God will _____ our suffering.

II. A _____ for Suffering

1. _____ God and the promises of His Word.
2. Press into _____.
3. Lean into the _____.

III. One who suffered _____ us and _____ us

- Because Jesus is our _____, we have a _____ for suffering.
- Following Jesus as our _____ gives us a _____ for suffering.



First Peter

Sunday, May 1, 2016

Connecting Together

One of the 3 primary purposes of a Growth Group is to care for one another. Yet each of us have different expectations of what care looks like and feels like. Share your perspective on what Growth Group care can look like.

Studying God's Word Together

1. Because it's doable, take the time to read the book of First Peter together. What struck you in your reading and/or in the message?
2. What are some of the different types of suffering? What brand of suffering is Peter talking about? Can you support your answer from the text?
3. Have you experienced "suffering as a Christian"? Peter mentions being "slandered and reviled" (3:16) and being "insulted for the name of Christ" (4:14). What are some ways we naturally react to suffering for our faith?

4. We are living in a post-Christian culture where more and more Christians are suffering for their faith in Jesus. Are you aware of these instances? Do you think you are ready to suffer for your faith if God should will it? How does First Peter help get us ready? What are some ways you think we might be called to suffer in the days ahead?
5. When we suffer, Peter challenges us to 1) trust God and the promises of His Word, 2) press into obedience and 3) lean into the church. Why are each of these counterintuitive and unnatural? Which of these is most challenging for you?
6. Read First Peter 2:21-25. Jesus is both the one who suffers FOR us (our substitute) and the one who suffers BEFORE us (our example). How does knowing Jesus is our substitute give us the POWER to suffer? What in the pattern of Jesus' suffering are we to follow and emulate?

Household/Family Focus: for discussion in your household

Discuss together ways you have suffered as a Christian or ways you might be called to suffer in the days ahead.

Prayer Together

As you pray for current needs, pray also that God might prepare you to suffer for His name, if He should will it. Pray for suffering Christians around the world today.