

Home Group Questions - August 5, 2018

1. What is the biggest sacrifice you have ever made for another person? Have you ever willingly endured pain or suffering for someone else's sake?
2. Browse through 1 Peter with your group and simply look for the word "suffer" or "suffering". How many times does the word appear?
3. Obviously, suffering is one of the major themes of the book of 1 Peter. The idea weaves in and out of everything that Peter talks about throughout the book. He talks about suffering from two different perspectives: The sufferings of Christ and the sufferings of Christ's followers.
 - Which verses discuss the sufferings of Christ?
 - Which verses discuss the sufferings of Christians?
4. Read verses 1:6-7 and 3:12-13.
 - These verses speak on our "participating in the sufferings of Christ", which is the idea that when Christ is glorified and honored at the end of times, we too will share in that glory and honor, because we have suffered with him for the same cause.
 - Is this something you've ever thought about before?
 - What comes to mind as you process this concept?
5. In what ways do Christians in the American Church suffer for Christ's sake?
6. Is there anyone you know who has suffered a great deal for Christ's sake?
7. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus is glorified when we endure pain in his name.
 - How and why do you think this is?
 - Does this make the thought of suffering for his sake any easier?
 - Why is it so hard for us to willingly endure pain and trials, even if it is for Christ's sake?
8. Pray with your group for those who are enduring trials for Christ's sake right now. Also pray that God would help us to learn how to "rejoice in our participation in the sufferings of Christ".