

“Trusting God Even When Life Hurts”

1 Peter 4:12-19

Message Notes

August 17, 2014



1. Suffering should not come as a surprise. (4:12)
2. Suffering tests our faith. (4:12, 17-18; cf. 1:6-7)
3. Suffering can be an occasion to rejoice. (4:13-14)
4. Our suffering should be due to our allegiance to Christ, not our own sinful actions. (4:15-18)
5. Even in the midst of suffering, we should entrust ourselves to God and continue to do good. (4:19)

*We can trust God with our lives even amidst suffering.*

“Trusting God Even When Life Hurts”

1 Peter 4:12-19

Growth Group Questions

August 17, 2014



1. Read James 1:2-4 and share ways that God has used trials in your lives to develop perseverance and Christ-like character in you. How did this trial(s), in conjunction with God’s word, the transforming power of the Holy Spirit achieve this spiritual growth?
2. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19 together. What reasons do we find in this passage to rejoice, be unashamed, and continue to entrust our lives to God even in the midst of *righteous* suffering (e.g. persecution because of our faith and allegiance to Christ, unprovoked evil actions of others, etc.)?
3. What does it mean to entrust oneself to God even when we are suffering in accord with God’s will? What spiritual resources are available to help us do this?
4. Do you ever struggle to reconcile the Bible’s teachings on God’s perfect love and sovereign control over this world with human suffering? Why or why not?
5. As you close in prayer, thank God for what He is accomplishing in your lives through trials and rejoice in this work of the Holy Spirit within you—evidence that your faith is genuine and you will be with Christ for eternity.