

# GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

WEEK 08  
June 7, 2020

## GETTING STARTED

1. Talk about a time you got in trouble as a child/youth for doing something wrong.



## SOAK

Read 1 Peter 4:12-19 three times asking the Holy Spirit to open it to you. Our goal is to soak in the Spirit, the scripture, and its surroundings.

1. 1 Peter 4:12-13 indicates that Christ followers will encounter “fiery trials” aka suffering/persecution. He points out that Christians shouldn’t be surprised or shocked by it. Instead, Peter calls them to find joy in that suffering. Discuss why this will be so challenging to those young in the faith.

## OBSERVE

Once we’ve soaked in the passage, we want to make sure we are able to see all that is really there; not interpreting, but taking note of what is present.

1. What is listed as the purpose of the “fiery trials” that Christians encounter?
2. How does Peter contrast GOOD suffering versus BAD suffering?
3. What two things does Peter encourage those who suffer “according to God’s will” to do? What is his call to action?

4. What question would you want to ask the author?

## **MEANING**

Now that we're familiar with the passage, we want to get at its meaning. This isn't about what it means to me, but what the author was intending to say.

1. What sort of suffering is proper for believers/followers of Jesus?
2. How should believers go about finding joy?
3. What would you say is the main point of this passage?

## **APPLY**

The goal of reading the Bible is transformation. We want to let the Word of God grow deep in us so that we can bear much fruit.

1. Our kneejerk reaction to mistreatment is usually to complain, protest, or worse, to retaliate. What ways will you seek to find joy, blessing and hope if you endure suffering as a result of following Jesus?
2. The world watches Christians when they suffer. Peter calls followers of Jesus to suffer in such a way that when the world observes this, they point others back to Jesus. Talk about how you seeing this take place.
3. Peter seems to say here that Christ-followers will find joy in places others won't. As in, they'll find joy in "weird" places. Discuss some circumstances where Christians can be different from the world and find joy where the world normally wouldn't...
4. Finish your time in God's Word by using this passage as the subject of your prayer. Take time to thank God for what was learned and express your desire for His continued work of transformation in your life.