

Bible Discussion: Finding Home 8

Text: 1 Peter 4:1-11

Purpose: To understand the purpose of suffering in our lives and why it's okay for us to embrace it when we encounter it.

Opening Question: What's the most painful injury you ever had?

Peter continues teaching the early church on this issue of suffering. It's something they were constantly faced with and something everyone will face in different seasons of life. Peter's main encouragement is to learn how we can embrace suffering and learn what God would have to say to us through suffering.

Read and Discuss: 1 Peter 4:1-6

1. Jesus suffered greatly and instead of ignoring it, He embraced it and was victorious. How is Jesus' example encouraging to you?
2. What are the ways suffering can be a gift from God?
3. How does suffering help you see what is really important and meaningful in life? When was a time that you suffered and were able to see what's really important?
4. How does knowing that unjust acts are seen by God and will be judged by Him, allow you to have peace in your current suffering (v.5)?
5. How are we rewarded for persevering in suffering (v. 6)? How do you persevere in suffering?

Read and Discuss: 1 Peter 4:7-11

6. What are some of the things that hold you back from praying during a season of suffering?
7. How does loving others and being hospitable help you during suffering? How can you grow in love and hospitality?
8. What are your spiritual gifts? What ways do you use them to serve others?