



LESSON 8

1 Peter 4:12-19

1. How did you live differently, love differently, or think differently as a result of studying **1 Peter 4:1-11**?
2. Slowly and prayerfully read through **1 Peter 4:12-19** in which Peter encourages his dear friends in the midst of their intense suffering. What is the tone of Peter's message and what are some of the phrases he uses to characterize his readers' suffering?
3. Describe the two different responses to suffering that Peter presents in **v12-13**.
4. a) Write a truth about suffering from **v13**.

b) What additional insight do the following verses provide about how our suffering is linked to the glory of Christ?

- **Romans 5:2b-4**

- **Romans 8:16-17**

- **1 Peter 1:6-7**

5. What do you think are the implications of the Spirit resting on those who are insulted because of the name of Jesus from **1 Peter 4:14**? For help with your answer, consult **Galatians 5:16-17, 22-26; 1 Peter 2:22-23**.

6. In **1 Peter 4:15-16**, Peter contrasts suffering as a result of wrongdoing with suffering as a Christian.

a) What does Peter want his readers to remember about suffering as a Christian and how does this challenge your own mindset?

b) What does suffering for Christ look like in your culture or for you personally?

7. How do **V17-18** on judgment relate to the suffering of the faithful? What is the main point Peter is conveying? Hint: the judgment of the followers of Jesus is God's purifying action.

8. How is **V19** a source of encouragement for the early church and for persecuted believers in every era?

9. **LIVING AS STRANGERS: JOYFUL IN SUFFERING**

a) Peter touches on several different responses to suffering, particularly suffering for the name of Christ. How do the verses below align your perspective with God's on why Christians can have joy in the midst of suffering and persecution?

- **Matthew 5:11-12**

- **James 1:2-4**

b) Reflect on your own responses to prior suffering or persecution. When have you responded with surprise, shame, joy, or giving up? What does your response reveal about your underlying assumptions?

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST