

Scripture – 1 Peter 4:12-19 (ESV)

¹² Beloved do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And

"If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Summary:

Since Christ has suffered for us and redeemed us through His death and resurrection, we are called to live for Him. This is more than merely making external changes; it is a complete surrender to God and His will. Peter urges the believers to lay aside their past way of living in sin and to put on the holiness of Christ even in the midst of suffering. We are called to bring glory to God even when facing suffering and persecution.

START (the group): Follow up with your group regarding their applications from last week. Ask them how they did in applying last week's text.

STUDY (the passage):

Read: 1 Peter 4:12-19

1. What sticks out to you from the passage?
2. What do you have a question about?
3. What does it mean to suffer for Christ? Are you suffering for Christ?
4. How does having an eternal perspective affect your daily life?
5. What does it look like to be glad and bring glory to God in the midst of suffering?

Apply:

6. What is one thing God is asking you to do in response to this passage?

Pray as a group.