



Series: 1 Peter
Passage 1 Peter 4:12-19
Title: Suffering – What’s the point?
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper– 9/22/2019

Discussion Starter

How have you experienced suffering because you are a follower of Jesus Christ? How is dying to your own fleshly desires a process of suffering?

Our flesh must be reduced to compost to experience the joy of life in Jesus (verses 12-4)

- Does our life become “better/easier” when we become Christians? What does “better/easier” mean to you”?
- Is any kind of growth possible without struggle or suffering? What kind of sacrifices have you made for self-centered rewards? (Advances in career, physical appearance, money, recognition are examples).
- What kind of sacrifices have you made for your ministries? (Ministering to you family, spreading the gospel, serving your community, serving at church, demonstration of godly character, godly relationships are examples)?
- Which of these two sets of pursuits brings the longest lasting joy or satisfaction?

Suffering for the name of Jesus brings assures our heavenly citizenship (verses 15-16)

- Did your relationships with your non-believing friends change when you became a follower of Jesus? How was this manifest in their behavior?
- Is it ok to invite persecution? Why is this problematic?

What the world buries in shame will experience resurrection into glory (verses 17-19)

- Is it possible to experience shame for demonstrating godly character?
- Why does Peter make the shift from suffering to judgement? (verse 17)
- How does the promise of eternal life put suffering in its proper context?
- What does it mean to suffer according to God’s will? (verse 19)
- JC mentioned three results of suffering with Christ. What were they?