



Life Group Discussion Guide

Suffering Victoriously

1 Peter 3:13-22

Pastor Jeff Bennett

February 28, 2021

Main Thought: Suffering for a purpose & suffering for the Person results in a proclamation of Victory!

Sunday Outline:

- Suffering for doing Kingdom good reveals your victory
- Suffering for a Purpose—Suffering for a Person—reveals Christ's Victory
- Evil triumphed over humanity through death; Jesus overcomes evil by overcoming death

Welcome & Fellowship Time (*Suggested Time 10 Minutes*)

Open in Prayer

Week in Review: (*Suggested Sharing Time 10 minutes*)

- Share some of the blessing from God that you recognized this last week. What relationships did you purposefully invest in this last week.

Discussion Starter: (*Suggested Time 5 minutes*)

- Share some of your sufferings this past week

Sermon Review: (*Suggested Time 20 minutes*).

Review 1 Peter 3:13-22 and discuss the following questions:

- Not to minimize suffering, but rather to clarify suffering...what Kingdom do you suffer most for—God's Kingdom or your kingdom? What is the difference between the two?
- Reflecting on verses 13 & 14, when do you find it hardest to do good to friends? To family? To strangers? To enemies?
- Looking at verses 14 & 15, make a list of things you fear in life...do those fall in line with what the world fears? What does God say about those fears?
- How do our sufferings reveal our hope, our purpose, our Lord, and our character? (Psalm 39:7; Colossians 1:27; Psalm 25:5; 1 Peter 1:3)



Digging Deeper: *(Suggested Time 15 minutes)*

Think of the followers of Christ in the first and second centuries and consider the sufferings they endured for Christ and the church.

- Which “Kingdom sufferings” cause more suffering for you, your kingdom or God’s Kingdom sufferings? Why?
- Often, we cry, “Why?” in the midst of our kingdom’s & God’s Kingdom’s sufferings. How does that question reveal our understanding of the purpose of our suffering?
- Suffering has the power to diminish—and strengthen—our faith. How have you seen your faith struggle in the midst of your suffering? How have you seen suffering increase your faith and understanding your purpose?

Application: *(Suggested Time 10 minutes)*

- We see that Jesus’ sufferings resulted in VICTORY. Jesus wants to give you victory over sin and death through His death and resurrection. Have you received His victory, forgiveness and new life?
- Write down your “Kingdom Sufferings” that allow you to experience your victory in Christ Jesus.
- Knowing what we know from 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 & Ephesians 1:19-23, how can you live in victory in the midst of suffering?

Group Prayer Requests: *(Suggested Time 10 minutes)*

Spend time praying for each other & praying for application of the study in the lives of the group members. *(Suggested time 10 minutes)*