

Sermon Discussion Guide

Date: September 15, 2024

Sermon Series: *Steady Sojourners*

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8-22

Preacher: Jerrod



SUMMARY

Big Idea: God calls us to be sensitive sojourners who suffer well.

After addressing certain groups of individuals and their roles in reflecting holiness (2:13 – 3:7), Peter turns his attention to the church and how we relate (reflect holiness) to one another. He urges that the church be marked by compassion, sensitivity, and humble, mind-of-Christ unity. From our relationship with one another, overflows a disposition to the world around us in which we will encounter suffering. Such radical living amidst suffering will bring inquiry from the world, to which we can speak of the sure and living hope we have in the Lordship of Christ (3:15). This pattern of living follows the same as Christ (3:18-22).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How's it going?

How is that question different from "What did you do this week?"

READ 1 Peter 3:8-17

1. Consider the 5 imperatives in verse 8. Discuss/define what each is calling us to
 - a. In which would you say you have noticed God's grace at work in your life to produce this fruit?
 - b. How have you seen God producing growth in these areas in the lives of others in your group?
 - c. Which one do you need to grow in the most? How can the group help?
2. In what ways does the world operate in grace-less ways?
 - a. How does that backdrop inform how you hear and apply verse 9?
3. How does loving unity within the church, relate to our witness outside of the church (v13-17) ?
4. Verse 15 is often misused to justify a defense of the gospel that can at times be sharp and demeaning. How do the surrounding verses (context: v 13-17) challenge that approach and application?

READ 1 Peter 3:18-22

5. Verses 18-22 give an explanation of our hope amidst suffering, as Peter traces the trajectory and pattern of Christ to our own, from His suffering in verse 18 to His resurrection and ascension in verses 21b-22.
 - a. How does what God did with and through Noah symbolize what Christ accomplished?
 - b. How does baptism run parallel to this?
 - c. What is it that gives us a clear conscience before God?
 - d. How do these verses encourage us to suffer well?

Notes for entering the waters of v 19-20

- Who are the "spirits"? see 2 Peter 2:4, and Jude 1:6
- Does "proclaim" mean gospel presentation or proclamation of victory? (see v22)
- How does this encourage sure hope and endurance through suffering for righteousness?