

# Sermon Discussion Guide

**Date:** September 29, 2024

**Sermon Series:** *Steady Sojourners*

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 4:12-19

**Preacher:** Jerrod



## SUMMARY

**Big Idea:** Having an Eternal Perspective Guides Us Through Temporary Suffering For Our Faith  
There are times in the Christian life when we will suffer for our faith. This truth should not surprise us. In times of suffering, it is normal to ask God, "why?" In the Old Testament, it was Job who wrestled with that same question. As we ask, though, the Bible gives us an approach to suffering that differs from the unbelieving world. We know that God is over all things and works out all things under his providential care. The principles we learn in this passage will help carry us through hard times with a joyful and Jesus-centered focus. The challenge will be to suffer well and give God our "why" question, by entrusting ourselves to His good care.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

When was the last time, for any reason or circumstance, you wrestled with the question, "why?"

### **READ 1 Peter 4:12-19**

1. Have you ever wrestled with asking God "Why?" in the midst of suffering?
  - a. What did you find helpful to navigate that time? Was anything *not* helpful?
2. Jerrod highlighted 3 primary reasons for suffering: fallen world, personal sin, persecution.
  - a. When suffering, how might it be helpful to think about which of these 3 we are experiencing?
3. In our verses, Peter uses 5 imperatives to equip his readers to endure suffering. Consider each of the 5 (maybe re-read the verse) and discuss the following questions:

#### **5 Imperatives**

- 1) 4:12. Do not be surprised
  - 2) 4:13. Rejoice..
  - 3) 4:15. Let none of you suffer as a...
  - 4) 4:16. Let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God
  - 5) 4:19. Let those who suffer.. entrust their souls..
- a. What makes this imperative important to know, remember, and walk in?
  - b. Is there one of these that you find most helpful? Why?
  - c. Is there one which one seems most difficult? Why?