

Women's Bible Study 1 & 2 Peter
Lesson 15 Questions
1 Peter 4:12-19

Read 1 Peter 4:12-19

1) Peter's advice to suffering Christians is to not think fiery ordeals strange or be surprised at them. They are not strange. They are not absurd. They are not meaningless. They are purposeful. They are for our testing. They are designed to try, not to ruin us, to try our sincerity, strength, patience, and trust in God. Do you think about your trials being for your ruin or for your ultimate good?

a) Give a recent example:

2) Our response to suffering is for His honor and for our comfort. Explain why the good behavior (from the heart) of a Christian under suffering is the most difficult part of our duty.

2 Cor. 4:7; Hebrews 12:11; 2 Cor. 5:15; 2 Cor. 1:3-4; Hebrews 11:1;
2 Cor. 10:12

3) Why would we be unfit to face trials if our flesh is not being mortified (being put to death)?

Romans 8:13; Col. 3:5

To mortify is to subdue the body (or its needs and desires) through self-denial and discipline. Neglect of this duty to mortify causes withering of the soul.

4) What is the job of the flesh during trials?

Galatians 5:17; 1 John 2:16

5) How does praise during suffering change us?

Eph. 5:18, 20; 1 Thess. 5:18; Ps. 34; Ps. 42; Ps. 43; Heb. 13:15; John 7:37

6) The apostle's advice to us is to rejoice in our sufferings because if we are partakers of his suffering we will be partakers of his glory and be crowned as his faithful servants.

2 Thess. 1:7

What is your response to this truth?

Is it a fairytale or a reality in your life?

7) What is the difference between rejoicing in God or rejoicing in a circumstance?

8) Sufferings are tokens of divine favor and promote the gospel and prepare us for glory.

Do you see your sufferings as divine favor?

Why or Why Not?

9) The best of men need to be warned of the worst of sins. It is not the suffering, but the object (Christ) of our faithful behavior that makes it worthy. There is little comfort when we bring suffering on ourself.

How do you bring suffering on yourself?

10) When God brings judgments on nations, he generally begins with his own people. (Isa. 10:12; Jer. 25:29). That means His judgments will begin with us. Divine judgment on believers is the decision God renders on someone's sin. Divine judgment includes chastening and leads to cleansing of the household of God, but not to eternal condemnation (Rom. 8:1; 1 Cor. 11:32; Heb. 12:11).

Can you think of a specific time you were chastened by the Lord and it lead to the cleansing of the household of God?

11) The sufferings of Christians are a demonstration of the unspeakable torments that are coming upon the disobedient and the unbelieving.

Who can express how dreadful their end will be?

Proverbs 11:3

Does that cause you to invest in the lives of unbelievers and to speak truth to them?

12) There are so many temptations, sufferings, and difficulties to overcome, so many sins to be mortified, the gate is narrow and the way is long.

Does that cause you to despair?

Why or Why Not?

Heb. 11:1; Heb. 11:6; John 14:1-6; Matt. 11:28-30; Colossians 1:10-14; 27

13) All of our sufferings come upon us according to the will of God, why would God use suffering to complete us?

James 1:2-4; Rom. 5:3-5; 2 Peter 1:3-11

14) What does our flesh (man's corrupt nature) and satan say about it?

Galatians 5:17

15) Our sufferings come upon us according to the will of God. The only way to keep the soul well is to commit it to God in well-doing.

What does doing well look like in your life?

Where are you tempted to not be committed? Romans 2:7; 2 Peter 1:3-11
