

Sermon: **“When the Christian Suffers” (1 Peter 5:6-7)**

Date: **April 28, 2019**

Everyone endures times of suffering throughout their lives. We live in a world cursed with sin and, as a result, suffering and affliction are ever-present realities. Over the next few weeks, Pastor Jacob will be taking a break from his sermon series in Matthew to do a mini-series on the topic of suffering. As we study this topic together, we will be reminded that above all else, during times of suffering, we must learn to trust that God knows what he is doing. Even when we don't understand *why* God might allow a certain trial or crisis to come into our lives, we must learn to trust God in the midst of the pain, grief, and sorrow. In this week's lesson as we study 1 Peter 5:6-7, we will see the importance of humility during times of suffering. The Christian must learn to respond to suffering with humility. If the sufferer does this, God promises that at the proper time He will exalt them. Further, Peter teaches us that we must learn to cast all our anxieties onto the God, because he cares for us.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read 1 Peter 5:6-7 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
 - a. What is the context of the book of 1 Peter that led Peter to write about the topic of suffering?
 - b. Peter writes, "Humble yourselves," (v. 6). What are some popular misconceptions about what humility is? What is a biblical definition of humility?
 - c. What does Peter mean when he says that we are to humble ourselves "under the mighty hand of God," (v. 6)? What Old Testament story does this phrase hearken back to?
 - d. Explain the contrasts that Pastor Jacob made between the pride of Pharaoh and the humility of Jesus.
 - e. What does it mean to "cast all your anxieties on him," (v. 7)?
 - f. What are some other things we are tempted to run to with our anxieties at times instead of God himself? Why are we tempted to run to these things?

- g. God will exalt the humble “at the proper time,” (v. 6). What does that mean? Why is that significant?

- h. Lookup Psalm 37:5-6 and Psalm 55:22. What do these passages teach us and how do they relate to what we’ve read in 1 Peter 5:6-7?

- i. According to this passage, why should we cast our anxieties on God? How does that encourage you?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?

2. Why are we sometimes tempted to respond to times of trial in pride? What might a prideful response to suffering look like?

3. Peter begins these two verses by commanding his readers to “humble yourselves,” (v. 6). Why is it necessary to respond to suffering in humility? How can we practically “humble ourselves” during times of suffering?

4. How is anxiety related to pride? How is it the opposite of trusting in the Lord?

5. The other command in this passage is to “cast all your anxieties on him,” (v. 7). What does this look like in the life of a Christian? How can we practically do this in the midst of trials?

6. Why is it important to remember that “[God] cares for you” during times of suffering? How can we fight to believe this even when it may *feel* as though he doesn’t care for us at times?

Accountability Question

Is there an anxiety in your life that you need to cast on God? What is it and how can we pray for you to cast it on him?