



**January 22, 2017**

**1 Peter: Finding Hope in Suffering**

**Text: 1 Peter 1:10-12**

Read together as a group the text we looked at Sunday. 1 Peter 1:10-12

**Opener:** Most of the time we all avoid hard things. **Share with the group something you did that was “hard” but in the end totally worth chasing after and conquering.** (Think running, grad school, learning to cook, becoming a great photographer, enduring as a Tennessee Vols fan!)

What you believe is really important! **How do your beliefs about suffering and hardships impact how you respond to these circumstance?**

Why does suffering draw us to come to God for help and answers in our circumstances? **What do we really want from God when we run to him when things are difficult?**

Suffering pushes us to ask some very normal questions.

*God how can you be good and still allow this to happen in my life or God are you really in control?*

**How do you wrestle these 2 questions to the ground when you suffer?**

Many times when things don't go well in our lives we get frustrated with God. We worry more than we pray. **Why do we retreat to finding our own answers and solutions when things don't go our way?**

Peter in this passage is saying to his readers that they are blessed to be able to live in their current season of suffering. **How can Peter say that God is so good in the midst of suffering?**

This morning we talked about these two truths about how God works through the suffering we encounter...

*God's work in your life will take longer than you expect.*

*God's work in your life will offend be more painful than you could ever imagine.*

**How do you respond to these two truths? Why does God work this way? How do we find God's goodness in these two ideas?**

Closing: What are some practical ways you can look to God when you face struggle this week?