



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?