



April 2, 2017

1 Peter: Unity with Christ

Text: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Read together as a group the text we looked at this Sunday...1 Peter 3:15-22 and then focus on Verse 18.

As we end chapter 3 of 1 Peter we encounter some hope and encouragement about why we endure suffering and persecution. **What do you think is the hardest part of following Jesus?**

Today's message was very clear that we endure because we are unified with Jesus in both our suffering and the victory of our future. **Think back on the message and process what stood out to you. Did God lead you to anything during our closing prayer time?**

We talked today about the power of "why" when it comes to pushing through suffering. **When has knowing your "why" helped you work through a challenge in your life?**

Why do you think we forget the weight of the work of Jesus in our lives?

This morning we talked about the idea that we will never be more like Jesus than we we suffer for Jesus. **How do you think God uses our struggles to make us more like Jesus?**

This text also has a few very difficult verse to make sense of. Theologian Martin Luther even said he could not really figure out what Peter was saying in verse 19. **How do you balance the tension that comes when you study verses that don't seem to make sense?**

Karen Jobe said this about these hard verses, "Peter here exhorts Christians to identify with the heroic and victorious Christ if they intend to follow in his footsteps." **How does this idea of identifying with Jesus help you endure?**

Verse 22 reveals our future hope and the authority of Jesus so clearly. Read verse that again. **How does knowing your future helps you make choices to endure today?**

Closing prayer...

As we head into the Easter season take some time as a group to pray for people you can invite to celebrate the season with us at Grace Community Church. God can use you to reach other people. Who can you invite? Pray together for courage!