

SUFFER WELL

A FIELD GUIDE FROM
1ST & 2ND PETER

WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

WK 7: The Blessed Life

SERIES OVERVIEW

Suffering is a natural consequence of surrender. As we surrender in greater ways to the Lordship of Jesus, we should expect persecution and difficulty especially as we find ourselves living in a negative world. 1st Peter encourages believers to persevere faithfully in light of their present hope and future salvation.

1 PETER VIDEO OVERVIEW

- [Watch HERE](#)

CONTEXT In 1 Peter 3:8-12, Peter calls believers to be unified, compassionate, and humble, urging them to repay evil with blessing. He emphasizes that those who desire to love life and see good days should keep their tongues from evil, seek peace, and pursue it, for the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous.

THE BIG IDEA

The blessed life is one in which we bless others, even those who insult and persecute us. The Lord sees the righteous but sets his face against the evil.

ICEBREAKER

Think of a person in your life currently or previously who is a light and blessing to you and others. They are full of life and usually positive even in the midst of suffering or trials. Share a quick story of why you chose them and the impact they had on your life.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:8-12

8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

10 For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

11 let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

STARTER QUESTION

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

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GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 Peter 3:8-12 as a group.

In verse 8, Peter gives us 4 things we are to do even in our suffering and when evil is coming at us. Discuss each one and share which one is the hardest for you to do and why?

What practical steps can we take to bless those who wrong us, as Peter instructs in 1 Peter 3:9?

Considering Peter's teachings, how can our words and actions reflect God's goodness and grace toward those who are far from God or have evil intent towards us?

In reference to verse 10, why do you think God chooses to say our words are the key to "love life and see good days"? Share a time when you chose to keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit and how did it impact you?

In verses 10-12, Peter is quoting Psalm 34:12-16. **Read Ps. 34:12-16** with everyone following along in their Bible. What commands and promises do you see? How do these verses challenge you and bring peace at the same time?

In verse 12, Peter uses humanlike characteristics to describe who God is and what He does. Identify the 3 human characteristics and how do they impact your view and understanding of God? Discuss other places in the Bible that give God humanlike characteristics.

Discussion continued: Reflect on a personal experience where you chose to forgive someone who wronged you. How did it change you and what was the outcome?

Pastor Lane prayed through questions during his response time. What question do you need to wrestle with & what is God asking you to do?

- Do you need to trust in God's justice?
- Is there someone that you need to forgive in your life?
- Is there a face popping up in your mind who God is calling you to actually bless rather than retaliate?
- Do you need to make peace with a brother or sister in Christ so that you can move on in unity?
- Do you need to trust that God is calling you to deeply enjoy your life regardless of the circumstances that are going on around you?
- Maybe you are going through a difficult season in your life and you have given fear a ton of power in your life, is God calling you to trust in Him?

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

Share praises, answered prayers, and pray for each person and what they need God to do in response to the question(s) above.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we humbly ask for Your grace and power to live in unity, showing sympathy, love, and humility to everyone including those who have wronged us. May we trust You in all things. Jesus' name Amen.