# SUFFER | A FIELD GUIDE FROM 1ST & 2ND PETER

#### **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.

#### **2 PETER OVERVIEW**

For a summary, timeline, background, message and purpose of 2nd Peter, go to your <u>Suffer Well Field Guide page 47</u>.

• Watch Overview (Watch as a group)

### THE BIG IDEA

The Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night, and Christ will take over and make all things new. Holiness and Godliness is how we prepare to see Him on that day.

#### **ICEBREAKER**

Have everyone stand up or raise a hand if unable to stand. The object is to sit down at 1 minute without going over. The leader says go and starts a timer on their phone that only they can see while the group counts in their head and sits down when they think a minute is up. Were most people early or late? Relate this to verse 8;)

### SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 3:1-13

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the predictions of the

### **WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE**

Week 17: On That Day

Scripture continued; holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, 3 knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. 4 They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." 5 For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, 6 and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. 7 But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. 8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

### SUFFER WELL

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### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth? Refer to your notes in your Suffer Well Field Guide (pg. 65).

Read 2 Peter 3:1-13. As a group, name at least 3 attributes of God from this passage that teach us who God is.
(Example. "patient toward you" vs 9)

How does Peter use the Word to stir up/wake up believers (vs 1) according to the sermon? Reference Romans 12:2 in your answer.

In verses 3-7, Peter tells us that scoffers <u>will</u> come and question (scoff) God as creator, promise keeper, sovereign and His timeless reign. Compare verses 3-7 with Genesis 3. What do scoffers say about God today to lure people away from God?

Read verses 8-10. How does the patience of God revealed in these verses bring us hope?

What frustrations come on this side of eternity because God is **timeless** (1 day = 1,000 yrs, vs 8) and **patient** (vs 9)?

In God's patience, we see the heart of God for those who are far from Him. How should this impact our heart for our "ONE" and our attitude toward our own suffering?

In verse 10 Peter tells us that the "Day of the Lord will come like a thief". Notice he uses judgement language in vs 10. What does it mean that "the works that are done on it (earth) will be exposed? How does God's judgement impact your view of God?

### **WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE**

**Discussion continued:** What are believers encouraged to look forward to in verses 12-13? How does this give you hope for the future and today?

**PRAYER** (In gender based groups)
\*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests. Pray for each other's ONE.

Closing Prayer (together as a group)
Heavenly Father, we thank you for your patience with us and those who are far from you. God, we understand that surrendering our all to you means we will suffer and be scoffed at. Help us to suffer well and proclaim your greatness no matter what. Jesus you are worthy of our praise and our total surrender. Help us to live lives of holiness and godliness as we eagerly await Your return. Amen.

## Summer Seminars June 16th

**\$15** (per class) (includes dinner, book, childcare)

### **COME AS A GROUP**

**Family Discipleship:** Leading Your Home Through Time, Moments and Milestones. (6:00pm, led by Devin Burris)

**Better Together:** Marriage & Relationships. This is for people in all stages of life. (7:30pm, led by Rick & Julie Biesiadecki)

**REGISTER HERE**