

**CONNECTION QUESTION**

Have you ever experienced suffering for righteousness' sake? What does unjust suffering look like in our region?

BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE**> READ 1 PETER 3:13-14.**

What purpose did God create us for? Is God's calling for us to do good works conditional? Is suffering while doing good the exception or the rule?

Share a personal story of a good deed that was directed toward you in your life and how that event affected you.

Read 1 Peter 3:9. How should we treat those who do evil to us or cause us suffering?

Read Matthew 5:10-12; 1 Peter 3:12; 4:14. What are ways that God blesses us in the midst of unjust suffering?

> READ 1 PETER 3:14-15.

As a disciple of Jesus, Peter was intimately acquainted with fear. Give some examples of this in his life. (*cf. Jn 18:15-18, 25-27; 21:15-19*)



How do we overcome our fear of others when faced with it? How does our culture deal with fear? Is it helpful or biblical to follow popular coping techniques? What does the Bible say about how to overcome fear?

What does it mean to "honor Christ as holy" in your hearts? How can you do that in your life? What does this say about what you value most in life?

> READ 1 PETER 3:15-17.

How does blessing those who cause you to suffer provide a chance to share the gospel? Can you think of an example from your life or the life of someone you know?

Why is it important to keep clear conscience before God and to treat your enemies with gentleness and respect?

NEXT STEPS

What are some groups in our own culture that are hostile to Christianity (i.e., LGBTQ, "Freedom From Religion" group)? How can we proactively engage and bless them, trusting that God will reward those acts of kindness?