

- Sing one or two songs from morning worship (printed in bulletin, available at redeemerprestemple.org under the “Resources” tab)
- Read the Scripture passage
- Pray with a specific focus on people and situations in the group (spiritual growth, needs, encouragement, rejoicing)
- Pray for the truths discussed from the Scripture study to more deeply permeate our lives and empower us for service and mission together

Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe the difference between "the prosperity gospel" and the actual gospel? What makes the prosperity gospel a false gospel?
2. What did Jesus mean by saying that he would give us "abundant life"? How do we experience that quality of life?
3. How does God use our suffering for his purposes in our lives?
4. What is the cause of suffering that Peter is speaking of in this passage? Why can we rejoice in such suffering?
5. What are some of the most common reasons we might be insulted for the name of Christ in our own day?
6. Remember Pastor Wang Yi's letter. What might it look like to entrust our souls to a faithful Creator while doing good?

Announcements

- Pray for our friends and missionaries the Clows in Honduras

1 Peter 4:12-19

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.