

PREACHING CURRICULUM



SERMON TITLE: Don't Waste Your Suffering

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 4:12-19

'...the purpose of our suffering is to bring glory to God...but not all suffering brings glory...'

1

REVIEW THE SERMON

How are you blessed by being maligned for the name of Christ?

How does our sharing in Christ's suffering deepen our union with Him? How does suffering enable us to experience his presence in a heightened way?

Do you ever suffer for the wrong reasons, empty of glory for Jesus? What are some of those wrong reasons?

How can we rejoice in suffering knowing that the scales will not balance out now, but that we know Him who holds the ultimate scales of judgement?

2

ASSESS YOUR LIFE

When suffering comes upon you, do you ever doubt the love and goodness of God in your life?

Is your aim as a Christian to avoid all suffering? Is it possible that OUR lack of suffering is actually abnormal for Christ's church?

If you hate to waste the things in your life that you hold valuable, are you as reluctant to waste your suffering?

3

APPLY THE TRUTH

Do you sometimes forget you are in the middle of a spiritual war, that the devil is always attacking, even right here, right now?

When we are 'surprised' by suffering what is our knee jerk reaction? How does that work against the gospel message? How can we avoid being 'surprised'?

Since Jesus is our perfect example and never deserved the suffering He endured, what should we learn about what our attitude and response should be to suffering?

4

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Will you be entrusting yourself, and doing His good this week, for the glory of God through your suffering?