

## Discussion Notes for 1 Peter 4

- Review: Why is it important for believers to have a biblical worldview about suffering?
- What are the dangers for believers living in a country where very little persecution is taking place?
- What does Peter mean when he says, “**Since...Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking**”?
- In **verses 1 and 2** Peter tells us that suffering alters the priorities of our life. How does suffering accomplish that?
- How does Peter’s description in **verse 3** of worldly attitudes and pursuits match our world today?
- What is he saying about worldly living in **verse 3** as it relates to believers?
- **Verse 4** expresses the attitude of the world toward believers. Why is the world mystified that believers don’t join them in their fleshly pursuits?
- In **verse 7** Peter advises us about how to be more effective in our prayer life. What is his advice and why do you think his suggestions will make a difference?
- Why do you think an effective prayer life is not something believers are much concerned about today?
- Read **verse 8 again**. Why is overlooking an offense considered an act of love?
- How can believers show hospitality today in a way that pleases the Lord? (**v9**)
- **Verse 10 and 11** are about diligently using whatever gift the Lord has given us. What would your advice be to someone who didn’t know what their gift might be?
- **Verses 12-16** speaks of different reasons for suffering. In these verses Peter encourages believers not to be ashamed of suffering for being identified with Christ. Why do you think someone might experience shame for being a Christian?
- Read **Luke 9:26**. What did Jesus say about being ashamed of Him?
- Why is it important to remember that judgment begins with God’s people? (**v17**)
- Peter is quoting **Proverbs 11:31** in **verse 18**. How does reading that verse right from Proverbs help to clarify Peter’s meaning?
- What is Peter’s final advice to believers who are suffering for their faith in **verse 19**?