The Big Picture

*Finding God’s Purposes in 1 Peter*

Pastor Toby • 4/16/2023

**When Feeling the Heat…**

1 Peter 4:12-19

Remember These Four Truths:

* This \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for you. (4:12-13a, 19)
  + It will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you.
  + It will \_\_\_\_\_\_ you to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Can you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it?
* Suffering \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (4:13b-14)
  + You will experience Jesus’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + You will experience great \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + You will experience the Spirit’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Can you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for it?
* Those who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (4:17-18)
  + Their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be tougher than ours.
  + Can you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them?
* Your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (4:19)
  + He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ what He is doing.
  + He keeps His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is worth the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Can you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him?

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Debrief Plan: 4/16/2023

**Icebreakers**:

1. If you could pick up a new skill in an instant, what would it be? Explain!
2. If you could be on any game show, which would you choose and why?

**Sermon Summary**: When we feel the heat of unjust suffering, Peter wants us to remember that God has a plan for those trials and that He will reward us for going through them well. We also need to know that those who are hurting us will be judged. Ultimately we must entrust ourselves to our Faithful Creator and just keep doing the good that God has called us to do.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Can you remember a time when you felt like your faith was being tested in a fiery crucible? How long did it last? How did your faith handle the heat?
2. Have you ever experienced the truth that suffering refines you and removes some of your faith’s impurities? If so, how did it all play out?
3. Do you experience joy a lot in your life or is its presence infrequent? What’s one thing that you can remember brought you genuine joy in the middle of a difficult time?
4. Have you ever experienced the closeness of the Spirit of God in the midst of great suffering? If so, tell the story to your group. Would you be willing to go through other trials in order to experience that closeness again?
5. When you hear about the judgment of the unbelievers who cause believers pain, do you tend to feel comforted that they will be held accountable or saddened that they will experience God’s unrelenting judgment? Or both?
6. How do you handle it when you struggle to believe that your Creator knows what He’s doing? How do you maintain your faith in those scenarios?