

Life Group Discussion Guide

1 Peter: Exiles in Our Land

Week 6: The Christian Superpower • 1 Peter 2:18-25

Read **1 Peter 2:18-25** together. Focus on recurring themes, words, and phrases. As you reflect on this passage and Pastor Jon's message, what are your initial impressions or takeaways? What stood out to you most?

What We're Called To

1 Peter 2:18-20 This passage begins with Peter addressing slaves submitting to their masters. During the time this epistle was written, slaves made up a significant portion of the Roman population. One simple reason that Peter addresses slaves is because they were a big part of society at the time.

There are, however, deeper reasons for Peter addressing slaves.

- Read vs. 19-20— what is the commendable action Peter discusses?
- Why does Pastor Jon refer to this as the Christian's superpower?
- Suffering brings more than just physical or emotional pain. There are special temptations facing those who suffer. Discuss those special temptations. Has the Lord helped you personally overcome any of them?
- Consider the victim culture of today and how anything "unfair" is put on blast and plastered across social media. What kind of witness would a Christian have by putting on the submission that Peter is talking about here? How would that posture impact your daily life?

Why We're Called to It (Endure Unjust Suffering)

1 Peter 2:21-25 Living in a fallen world means suffering is expected, and as believers it means that our suffering is an opportunity to show the world true hope. Peter encourages his readers to suffer well by pointing to the one example that makes it possible..

- Read vs. 21 – What were we called to and why?
- Discuss the shocking truth of the eternal God suffering for His children. Why is it so shocking? What impact does that have on us today? How can it enable us to bear our burdens better?
- Peter made the connection between Jesus and Isaiah 53 (see Isaiah 53:5): what conclusion should his Jewish readers have made? As a group, take the time to pray for the Jewish people today that they would hear His voice and have their eyes opened to this foundational truth.

Jesus Did NOT Sin, Deceive, Retaliate, or Threaten

- How does Peter's claim that Jesus did not sin support the deity of Christ?
- Jesus did not retaliate against the false accusations thrown at Him. Because of the power of the Holy Spirit in us, we too have the ability to remain silent in the presence of our enemies. Have you been falsely accused or ridiculed? How did you handle it? How does knowing Jesus faced this same situation give you hope?

Jesus Did Entrust Himself to the Just Judge

- Jesus had every right and opportunity to retaliate against His accusers, but He chose to remain silent because He entrusted Himself to the One who judges justly. Discuss how we should also entrust ourselves and what it looks like practically in our daily lives.

Jesus Bore Our Sins in His Body on the Cross

- It is a difficult concept to understand when we read that Christ took our sins upon Himself on the cross. How would you explain it to someone who hasn't read the Bible?

By Jesus' Wounds we are Healed

- The healing we receive from Jesus' death is key to our Christian superpower; it is the very reason we can be called a new creation. Why is it so important to understand we've been made new? How does this equip us to suffer unjustly?
- Pastor Jon points out that if we can endure unjust suffering, how much more we should endure our brothers and sisters within the church. Because we are all new creations brought into the family of God, we can bear with one another with love and mercy. Consider ways you can show your love for your fellow church family members this week and ask the Lord to show you how you can grow in this area.

