



FIRST LIGHT CHURCH

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Date: 7/24/2022

ICEBREAKER: Would you rather go a week without your cell phone, your TV, or your vehicle? Why?

CONTEXT: In this week's focus text, Peter reminds his readers that even in the midst of suffering, our hope is found in Jesus. Because of what He did at the cross, we can leave behind our old selves and use our God-given gifts to serve Him.

PASSAGE: Have a volunteer read 1 Peter 4:1-11.

DISCUSSION:

1. In verse 1, the phrase "the same way of thinking" can be translated as attitude. According to the Oxford Dictionary, attitude is defined as "a settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior." Our actions reflect our attitude. What was the attitude of Jesus that we are supposed to arm ourselves with? What things can affect our attitudes and, as a result, our behavior?
2. How can physical suffering bring victory over sin? (v. 2)
3. How do those who don't follow Jesus respond to us when we stop doing the things of the world? Have a couple of volunteers share their personal experiences of how people responded to them after they came to follow Jesus and put their old selves behind them.
4. "But remember that they will have to face God, who stands ready to judge everyone, both the living and the dead. That is why the Good News was preached to those who are now dead—so although they were destined to die like all people, they now live forever with God in the Spirit." (NLT) What hope do we find in these two verses?
5. What do you think Peter meant when he said to be alert and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers? (v. 7)
6. How have you seen love cover a multitude of sins? (v. 8)
7. Why do you think Peter added "without grumbling" to his directive to offer hospitality to one another? (v. 9)
8. Why have we been given gifts, and why is it important that we use them? (verses 10-11)

APPLICATION:

9. In what ways can followers of Christ suffer for their faith? How can you encourage someone who is suffering for their faith in Christ?
10. Peter emphasized that "the end of all things is at hand." In light of this, what should be characteristic of our lives?

K4 CONNECTION:

Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, we can die to our old, sinful ways and walk in the newness of life. This life change is a result of the Gospel message. It is this message of hope and salvation that the world desperately needs to hear from us.

CARE AND PRAY:

- Share prayer requests and any needs with each other.

Resources: *Grace in the Wilderness*, Kristin Schmucker; *Living for God*, J. Bowser