

Date: July 14, 2024 Teacher: Rev. Scott Allen

Message: Stand Firm

Video is available online at: **visitccc.com**

Connection

If you could travel anywhere in the world without worrying about the price, where would you go?

Content 1 Peter 4:12-19 - Therefore Suffer

When we press into Christ during our suffering we will receive a reward.

Recognize

Read 1 Peter 4:12. There will be some level of trial and suffering to come on you. In fact our trials may be used to test us and develop our character.

1. When did you face a trial, and how did it develop you?

Rejoice

- 2. Under Emperor Nero, the Roman Empire began a persecution of the Christian people that continued for hundred of years. What do 1 Peter 1:6-7 and 1 Peter 4:13 show us about how Peter encourages us to respond, and why is that important?
- **3.** Intentional gratitude reminds us of how God has provided for us in the past, and how he WILL provide for us in in the future. How can future joy or past joy, inspire current joy in you?

Receive

Read 1 Peter 4:14-16 & Matthew 5:10-12. Persecution for following Jesus Christ rewards us. We need to practice receiving persecution and know we have a reward waiting in heaven.

4. How can you grow in receiving persecution or trials and why is this such a challenge?

Reflect & Regard

5. Read 1 Peter 4:17-18 & Matthew 25:31-33. "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly?" Who is someone in your life that doesn't know Christ, and how can we be praying for them to come to know Christ?

Commitment - Reward, Resolve, Rest

Read 1 Peter 4:19 and 1 Corinthians 3:10-15. Concerning the judgment of believers, we will be separated from those who don't know Christ when we come before the Father.

- **6.** Our reward is not of this world, but awaits us in heaven. How can we commit to our Father and let it overflow to living a life to serve others?
- **7.** This week, reflect on the trouble you are facing, and practice taking heart in knowing Christ is with you and we have peace in Him. In the difficult season you're facing, read Matthew 11:28 and practice coming to Him for rest.

Put to memory this week: 1 Peter 4:19

"So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good."