



# Sermon Questions

Date: *March 6, 2022* | Scripture: 1 Peter 4:12-19

1. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. Consider it as a warning (v12), an instruction (v13), and an explanation (v14-19). Summarize each of these three sections in your own words.
2. Suffering is to be expected. It would surprise us to find that a friend was not enduring some kind of suffering. Make a list of things that are currently a trial or test in your life.
3. As Christians, we do not have to minimize suffering, or pretend that it is not painful. When we say that suffering is productive, we do not pretend for a moment that it is enjoyable. Look at verses 13, 14 and 16. Where have you seen Christians glorify God even as they have endured deep pain?
4. Christ can sympathize with our pain and suffering, and as we endure suffering we can come to understand his love for us more deeply. Read v19. How has suffering been your teacher? Are there times of hardship which, either during them or looking back on them, you can see something of what God was doing with it?
5. Verse 15 warns us that we can bring unnecessary suffering on ourselves. Consider where the Spirit may be convicting you of these, and prayerfully repent.
6. Having participated in the Lord's Supper this week, reflect prayerfully on the words of the Heidelberg Catechism below. How does this relate to our passage this week?

## Heidelberg Catechism Q79.

Q. Why then does Christ call the bread His body and the cup His blood, or the new covenant in His blood, and why does Paul speak of a participation in the body and blood of Christ?

A. Christ speaks in this way for a good reason: He wants to teach us by His supper that as bread and wine sustain us in this temporal life, so His crucified body and shed blood are true food and drink for our souls to eternal life.[1] But, even more important, He wants to assure us by this visible sign and pledge, first, that through the working of the Holy Spirit we share in His true body and blood as surely as we receive with our mouth these holy signs in remembrance of Him,[2] and, second, that all His suffering and obedience are as certainly ours as if we personally had suffered and paid for our sins.[3]

[1] John 6:51, 55. [2] I Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:26. [3] Rom. 6:5-11.

## WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

*Reflect* on these Scriptures:

- Exodus 29:10-29
- Psalm 31
- Malachi 3:1-6
- Matthew 16:21-28
- Romans 5:1-11
- Hebrews 12:1-17

*Listen* to our Spotify playlist [Disciples Who Make A Difference: 1 Peter](#)

*Pray* for Christians facing persecution around the world, using <https://www.opendoors.org/>

*Plan prayerfully* how to tangibly help a friend in suffering that they are currently facing

*Reach out* if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at [deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org](mailto:deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org)