



Perspective | 1 Peter 4:1-6

We're walking through a study of 1 Peter and the theme that we've been tracing is this idea of the "weight of grace" and the idea is that grace anchors us. In 1 Peter 5:12, Peter writes, "I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it."

What is grace?

How have you seen grace anchor your soul?

What keeps us from experiencing grace as the anchor of our souls?

READ/REFLECT

1 Peter 4:1-6 ... read through these verses.

What is that "same way of thinking" that is described in verse 1?

What is the kind of suffering that is described in verse 1? What are some reasons that we might tend to run from suffering?

What does it mean to "cease from sin"? Read Romans 6:5-11 for understanding the concept.

Remember that sin is the response to life of *living independently of God*. Being "dead to sin" means that this response no longer has "mastery" over us (i.e., it is no longer inevitable).

How does someone begin to see themselves that way? What disciplines do we need to incorporate to begin to view things that way?

What is the connection between being "dead to sin" and "suffering?"

How does "being dead to sin" relate to choosing God's will over human passions?

Why is it often tempting to respond to life with the actions listed in verse 3?

What does it mean that "the time that is past suffices"? (verse 3)

Knowing that choosing God's will can lead to misunderstanding (vs. 4), how are the words of verse 5 comforting?

In verse 6, Peter describes that -- while all will die physically ("judged in the flesh the way people are") -- those who know Christ will experience life. How is that comforting in the midst of being persecuted and/or misunderstood?

RESPOND

What specifically will you take away from this passage? How and when will you apply that truth?

REACH OUT in prayer

Ask each person in the group to share how others can pray for them to apply these truths to their lives.