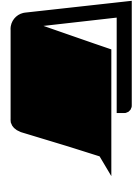


this *exile* life



A SERIES IN 1 PETER

Sunday, April 25, 2021 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 15 | **Entrust Your Soul**

1 Peter 4:7-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Don't be surprised if you **SUFFER**,

v. 12-16

this is only a test...

Romans 8:28; 1 Peter 5:10

blessing now and later

v. 13-14; James 1:2-4ff; Acts 5:41; Philippians 3:10-11

trials v. consequences

v. 15; 1 Peter 2:20

God is **WORKING** (and in control!) v. 17-18

judgment

Romans 14:10; Hebrews 9:27; Isaiah 11:12; Acts 16:31; 2:38; 4:12

—you can **TRUST** him.

v. 19

“entrust your soul”

Luke 23:46; 2 Timothy 1:12; Proverbs 3:5-6; Hebrews 10:23



What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

Getting to Know You

Getting to Know You: Use this guide

for your personal and group study this week. Part of our goal together is getting to know one another. *In recent weeks NASA's latest mission to Mars, Perseverance, landed on the Martian surface. If you could go to Mars, would you? Why or why not? (FYI, it's a 6-8 month journey one-way...)*

Getting Started

Review your message notes. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

How was Christianity described to you before you made a commitment to follow Jesus—that life would be so much better with Jesus, or that you just signed up for extra pain and suffering?

Digging Deeper

1. It can be hard to understand at times, especially when we're in the middle of it, but God allowing us to suffer make actually be for our own benefit. What can we learn from the following passages about what the benefit of our suffering may be?

James 1:2-4

Hebrews 5:7-8

1 Peter 1:6-7

2 Corinthians 1:3-6

How do you think our attitude affects our willingness to accept trials as God's tool to benefit us?

2. Sometimes our hardships and suffering as Christians may be because of our own bad choices. In those cases, it's often not our faith that gets us in trouble or causes others to turn on us, but our sinful "meddling." What guidelines or insights can you find in **Ephesians 4:29-5:2** to help you avoid this pitfall?

Are there any "meddling actions" you might need to take a look at in your own life?

3. Knowing that God is still at work for the positive in our life is an important reassurance in the midst of life's challenges (**Philippians 1:6**). Fortunately, it also gives us the resources to help deal with these challenges. What resources do you find in the following passages that can help you cope with, handle or even grow through a hard season in life?

John 14:25-27

Philippians 4:6-7

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Can you think of any examples of how any of these resources have helped you? Is there one you tend to forget more than the others?

As you close, spend time praying for each person in your group.



APRIL/MAY/JUNE CHALLENGE:

Gather, Grow, Go!

We want to see every person who calls Wawasee home do 3 things:

1. **Gather** regularly on Sunday mornings. (Hebrews 10:25).
2. **Grow** by getting connected in a growth ministry like a Life Group, Forge, Women's Bible Study, etc. Don't just show up, *grow up!* (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Heb. 5:12)
3. **Go** serve somewhere! Wawasee Bible will *never* feel like family to you until you're linking arms and serving somewhere. **Where are you serving?** More than ever, we need people willing to serve. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

How are you doing at these three things? Do you need to **Gather** and show up more regularly? Do you need to **Grow** up and get connected in a Life Group? Do you need to **Go** and get off the sidelines and into the game so that you can contribute rather than just consume?

This spring your challenge is to take some tangible steps to *Gather, Grow, & Go!*

Word Find for 1 Peter 4:12-19 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

¹² **Beloved**, do not be **surprised** at the **fiery trial** when it **comes** upon you to **test** you, as **though something strange** were **happening** to you. ¹³ But **rejoice insofar** as you **share Christ's sufferings**, that you may **also rejoice** and be **glad** when his **glory** is **revealed**.

¹⁴ If you are **insulted** for the **name** of **Christ**, you are **blessed, because** the **Spirit** of **glory** and of God **rests** upon you. ¹⁵ But let **none** of you **suffer** as a **murderer** or a **thief** or an **evildoer** or as a **meddler**.

¹⁶ Yet if **anyone suffers** as a **Christian**, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that **name**. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to **begin** at the household of God; and if it **begins** with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

¹⁹ Therefore let those who **suffer** according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

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