

In Christ: **PREPARED**

1 Peter 3:8-22

Prepared by
Dave Keun

Week Beginning 16 March 2009

Discuss (5 minutes as a group)

How can suffering be a blessing?

Read, Reflect and Apply

Read v8-17

1. Discuss how we are called to live in community? Give examples of what this looks like

2. In reaction to mistreatment or insult, what should we:

Not do?

Do instead?

Why should we behave like this?

3. For what reasons does Peter quote Ps 34? (It may be helpful to read all of the Psalm)

4. Peter's readers may have had to suffer mistreatment and even persecution, so



why should they not fear?

5. v14-15 contain a quote from Is 8:11-15. In this part of Isaiah, the people of Judah are afraid of the impending attack from Assyria. Read Isaiah 8. How does it relate to the situation of Peter's readers?

6. What is the relationship between doing good and suffering?

7. What are some practical ways that you 'set apart Christ as Lord' in your life?

8. What is the difference between shaming someone and letting your behaviour put them to shame?

9. How could you prepare yourself to give an answer to those who ask you to explain your hope in Christ?

Read v18-22

10. How does the resurrection affect our confidence in the face of suffering?

11. How does Peter answer the question in these verses that he raised in v13 of ‘who can harm you’?

12. What was achieved by Christ’s sufferings?

13. {OPTIONAL QUESTION} What is the significance of Jesus proclaiming to the spirits in prison?

14. How does the victory of Jesus encourage you in your faith?

15. How does the image of v22 inspire your worship of Jesus?

Pray

(Try to stay focussed on the issues the passage raises)

- That we will want to love each other, live in harmony and be compassionate.
- That when we are persecuted we would look to bless not take revenge
- For those who persecute or speak maliciously against us that there words would have no substance or grounds because of our good lives
- Give thanks that no one can harm us—no supernatural or natural power
- Give thanks for Christ’s unique sacrifice that brings us to God
- Praise God for the resurrection and all that it means for us
- Many connections with and beyond our community that we might speak of God’s wonderful salvation in Christ.



CONNECT09
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH CHRIST