

The Way of the Cross: Suffering

March 16, 2025

Text: 1 Peter 2:18–23

Slavery is the Paradigm for Christian Living

- _____ with slavery.

- The _____ of the slavery paradigm.
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A Life of Suffering

- We must endure suffering for _____.

- We must endure _____.
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How Do We Handle Suffering?

- Do not let suffering _____.

- We _____ to God.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Why do you think Americans are so obsessed with happiness?
- What are some of the fallacies we believe about suffering? Why do you think we follow these lies?
- Read 1 Peter 2:16. Why do you think Peter teaches that slavery to God is the path to true freedom? Why do we struggle with slavery as the paradigm for Christian living?
- Why do you think New Testament writers preferred a strategy of subversion rather than our modern "whack-a-mole" method of dealing with societal ills?
- How can we develop the patience needed to see subversion work? What are some modern examples of subversion overthrowing evil systems?
- How does it make you feel to hear the statement, "Christianity is a life of suffering?" Do you agree or disagree, and why?
- What kinds of suffering must we endure? Which kind of suffering do find most difficult to endure? Why?
- Which of Peter's imperatives for handling suffering (1 Pe 2:23) do you find most helpful? Why?
- How does knowing that Christ suffered and continues to grieve and care about our suffering help us to face trying times? How can we support each other through times of suffering?