

HOPE IN SUFFERING

A LIVING HOPE

A LIVING HOPE WEEK TEN

1 PETER 4:12-19

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

READ

Psalm 118:5

WHEN HARDPRESSED, I CRIED TO THE LORD;
HE BROUGHT ME INTO A SPACIOUS PLACE.

PRAY

- Spend some time praising God for His faithfulness.
- Ask God to open your heart for what he might want to teach you and the group at this gathering.

READ 1 Peter 4:12-19

DISCUSS

1. What are some items that make you comfortable? Be as specific as possible (i.e. Mashed potatoes and gravy are a comfort food for many). Why does this particular item make you feel comfortable?

2. Why do we suffer?

3. What is the purpose of suffering for Christians?

4. Discuss this quote by Brett McCracken,

Uncomfortable Christianity, however, leads to life and transformation. It leads us to rely on God and not on ourselves; to serve rather than be served; to live lives marked by sacrifice. It leads us to do hard things, to embrace hard truths, to do life with hard people for the sake and glory of the One who did the hardest thing. It may be uncomfortable, but it will be worth it. On the other side of discomfort is delight in Christ.

What kind of thoughts does this quote bring to your mind? Does this quote comfort, convict, or challenge you?

5. Why do you feel many Christians are uncomfortable to talk about their faith? What would help you be more comfortable talking about your faith?

6. Read verse 18 again. How does this verse make you feel? Does it console you? Does it cause you to have concern for someone you know?

PRAY

- Spend time praying that God would help you walk into areas of discomfort that cause you to follow the way of Jesus.
- Spend time praying for someone you know that is struggling to follow the way of Jesus.