



SOJOURNERS

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

 CHRIST PACIFIC CHURCH

WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE?

1 Peter 2:18-25

This week’s passage answers the question, “What is the evidence?” The example of Christ in facing suffering in his service to God is at the heart of this week’s passage. Jesus is an example for his followers in both his suffering *and* his trust in God to bring resurrection and life out of suffering and death. While the context is a slave’s relationship to his master, Jesus’ example is for all of us.

GOSPEL—WHAT IS THE GOOD NEWS HERE?

In 1 Peter 2:18-21, Peter addresses believing slaves in relationship to their masters and Jesus’ example. How are servants to live in relation to their master? What kind of masters does Peter mention (2:18)? In verses 19-20, what is a “gracious thing,” and when is it “gracious?” How is the “example” of Jesus good news for both our salvation *and* our way of life (compare 2:21 with 1:17-19)?

Verses 22-25 fill out what Peter means by speaking of Jesus’ “example” What “example” did Jesus leave (2:23)? What did Jesus suffer and endure (2:20-23)? Why, how, and for whom did he endure (2:24-25; see also Is. 52:13-53:12)? How does God redeem and use the suffering of Jesus?

RESPONSE—WHAT CAN I DO FOR OTHERS?

We live in a world of examples, some with more authority and more influential than others. Jesus' example is enduring suffering for others, while patiently entrusting oneself to the one who judges justly. How have you entrusted yourself to God when living rightly in his Kingdom? How has God shown himself faithful? What challenges or hopes do you have in seeking to serve God and others?

RESPONSE—HOW CAN I WORSHIP GOD?

Without Jesus, the world is like sheep without a shepherd. The lost and those outside of the family of God endure much hardship and suffering alone. Who can you pray for to be sought out by the Lord Jesus? Unbelievers? Prodigals? Hurting? Neighbors? Vulnerable? Leaders? How can you praise God for the work he has done to lead you and others to come to know Jesus?

“Be subject to”

In this week's passage, we encounter a word that many people find difficult to hear and accept. The Greek verb “be subject to” can also be translated as “submit to.” Our culture does not like the concept of *submission*, since it goes against its concept of freedom. However, submission to earthly authorities in the New Testament is always an expression of our submission *to God*. In other words, submission, at times, can be an aspect of our discipleship as God's servants.