



### Engage

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Can you list a few ways people comfort those suffering? What might these responses reflect about our view of suffering?

### Read 1 Peter 4:12-19

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**Circle** the references to God in this portion of Peter's letter.

**Underline** the commands/exhortations found in this portion of the letter.

<sup>12</sup> Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And,

“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

<sup>19</sup> So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

Discuss the various pictures of God presented by Peter.

Can we make a distinction between our usual approaches to suffering and those presented in Peter's letter?

### Apply

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Where in your life can you see opportunities to commit to doing good in the midst of difficulty?

How can you draw on the various pictures of God to encourage you this week?



**Growing the young in their devotion to God's word.**

Discuss ways we can encourage & model to the young in our lives the commitment to do good (as we find in God's word) despite hardship or sacrifice?