

SCC Small Group Discussion
Full Steam Ahead: About Suffering

Derived from a sermon on August 16, 2026 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

Opener: What's a confounding thing that happened to you in the past...When you asked "Why God?"

Searching the Scriptures:

Read 1 Peter 4:12-13

1. If you were asked to tell a group of new believers what to expect in the Christian life, what are some things from 1 Peter you would tell them?

2. In what ways does our suffering make us partners with Christ's suffering?

3. What is the reason for having joy in our trials?

Read 1 Peter 4:14-16

4. Have you ever been personally insulted for your beliefs or actions done in Jesus name?

5. What counsel would you give a Christian who seems to invite criticism on themselves? How do you evaluate if they standing up for truth or just being annoying?
6. How has suffering for the sake of Jesus molded or changed you? Is that a different effect than other kinds of suffering in your life?

Read 1 Peter 4:17-19

7. Why do you think judgment begins with God's household?
8. Verse 19 says if you are suffering "in a manner that pleases God" or literally "according to his will" you should "entrust your souls to the faithful Creator by doing what is good." What are some really good responses to suffering that you have seen which show a person's hope and end up glorifying God?

Application

Is it inevitable for Christians to suffer? If you have not faced persecution for your faith, is something wrong?

What about Christ's sufferings do you identify with the most?

Get discussion questions in word format & link to Bible App plan for this week at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads