

10. While we should not long for suffering in our lives, how does today's text challenge your perspective on the goal of life following Christ?

How might equating comfort and security with the good life actually obstruct the sanctifying process Peter wrote of in these verses?

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

11. In what ways have sufferings or challenges produced in you "proven genuineness"?

12. When facing the storms of life, what can you do to discipline yourself to focus more on your eternal blessing than your temporary trials?

Prayer Requests

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May 10, 2020

Discovering God in the Storms of Life
Mary, the Young Woman of Nazareth

1 Discovering God in the storms of life: Mary the young woman of Nazareth

2. Mary; finding faith in the midst of the joys and pains of life.

3. The storms of Life: Mary's Journey

- Unfulfilled Expectations Luke 1:26-38
- A Frightening Word Luke 2:25-35
- The Child of Destiny Luke 2:48-52
- The Death of a Son John 19:25-27

In the storms of life the end goal is to discover living faith in Jesus Christ that enables us to walk steadfast through it all. One final glimpse of Mary of Nazareth (Acts 1:13-14)

What will I do on Monday with what I have learned on Sunday?

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

MAY 10, 2020

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

1. When have you experienced joy and pain at the same time?

2. What activities or disciplines do you engage in that you know before you begin will be unpleasant, yet you do them because you know they will also be rewarding?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ 1 PETER 1:6

3. Verse 6 begins with the statement, "In all this you greatly rejoice." Look back at verses 3-5 to be reminded of what "this" was for Peter's readers. Why is it crucial that these things be the foundation for our joy instead of our circumstances?

4. Peter stated that because of the reality of verses 3-5, those to whom he wrote could rejoice despite grief from all kinds of trials. When have you experienced the reality of being able to rejoice even when facing the storms of life?

Where are you experiencing this now?

5. This past weekend, we celebrated Mother's Day. What are some unique ways parents might face trials in seeking to raise children to love and follow Christ?

What are some unique ways those without children might face trials?

6. Think back on the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. How did Mary find joy despite seasons of uncertainty, fear, and great sorrow as Jesus' mother?

READ 1 PETER 1:7

7. According to verse 7, what should the "various trials" and suffering of verse 6 accomplish in the lives of believers?

8. In what ways is the Christian's faith "of greater worth than gold" (v.7)?

How have you been failed by wealth or other material possessions?

9. Peter wrote that the testing of the believer's faith by trials proves its genuineness. How have you seen this play out in your life?

How does this encourage you in the good that God is working in your life, even in the midst of great trial?