

Pastor Andrew Smith

January 10, 2021

It's Not Supposed to Be This Way

1 Peter 1:3-9

1. Pastor Andrew says, "Disappointment is the distance between expectation and reality." Tell of a time when your expectation of a person didn't meet the reality. Tell of a time when someone else's expectation of you didn't meet the reality.

2. 1 Peter 1 tells us how to overcome disappointment and disbeliefs by reminding us of two things: whose _____ and what _____.

How do knowing these two (position and possession) help us face disappointments? Tell of a time when one of the other of these two principles made a difference in a situation you were facing.

3. Peter tells us of two possessions given to every believer in Christ. What are these? Who holds them? Where?

How does this knowledge help you overcome disappointment? What kind of response does it create in you? "Yes, but..." "That's nice, but..." "It helps, but..." Something different? How?

4. Pastor Andrew says God can turn trials into testimonies. Verse 6 says we rejoice, though now "for a little while" we may suffer grief in various trials. What is important about the phrase, "for a little while?"

How does this help you face disappointment?

Does your idea of a "little while" match God's? What is He doing during these times?

5. Verse 7 says there is a purpose to our trials. What is it? Is there more than one purpose? How is working for this purpose a shield against disappointment?

6. Pastor Andrew says, "I can have civil, honest, full of conviction conversations with those who disagree with me, treating them with honor and respect." Why can we have such a conversation?

Is there someone you need to have one of those conversations with? How will you react if the expectation of the outcome doesn't meet the reality?