

A LIVING HOPE

1 Peter 1:3-12

Discussion Guide

God gives you a living hope. (3-5)

A Theology of Suffering

1. High view of sovereignty and goodness of God
2. Honest view of the origin of sin and suffering
3. Humble view of yourself
4. Hopeful view of the gospel and redemption

Hope allows you to hurt and have joy. (6-7)

We live differently now because of the hope of then. (8-9)

- What is something you hoped for and received?
- What is something you've hoped for and did not receive?
- As a whole, do you believe Christians suffer "better" than the rest of the world? Why or why not?
- How is a hope grounded in the resurrection different than hope in other things in life?
- Why is a theology of suffering important?
- Read **1 Peter 3:15**. How is this verse explained by our passage today (1 Peter 1:3-12)?
- Do you find Christians tend to hide their hurt or neglect their joy?
- Can you describe a time you were both hurting and joyful?
- How is displaying the living hope through suffering evangelistic?
- Where are you hurting? How can we pray for you?
- **PRAY** for someone you know is suffering right now.
- **PRAY** God will give joy in the middle of the hurt.

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