

## A. SERMON SCRIPTURE

Title & Scripture:

### Born Into A Living Hope

1 Peter 1:3-9 (ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read I Peter 1:3-9. What is this text about? What stands out to you? Where do you see Jesus? How can you apply this text?
2. One of the things we discover from Peter's letter is that our "New Birth" brings us into a "living hope" which is synonymous with "an inheritance." That inheritance is something that cannot fade, spoil, perish and is being kept for us.  
Okay....so how does all of that help to know when suffering?
3. What is suffering? Not what are the circumstances that cause us to suffer, but why do we suffer in circumstances? How does the depth of our suffering relate to the grandness of our hope?
4. How does suffering actually help us realize the benefits of our new birth...which is our inheritance? How do they work together?
5. Prayer and praise.