

# **When Being In The Right Position Hurts**

**“Dear friends, don’t be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world. If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people’s affairs. But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God’s household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God’s Good News? And**

**also, “If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?” So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.”**

**1 Peter 4:12-19 NLT**

**Suffer/Suffering - 4x**

**Fiery Trials**

**Trials**

**Insulted**

**1. Joseph was in the perfect position to save lives, but it sure hurt.**

**Genesis 37,39,40**

**-sold by his brothers**

**-a slave in Egypt**

**-falsely accused of rape and imprisoned**

**-promised a favor and forgotten**

**2. Gideon was in the right position to defeat the a Midianites, but he sure felt outgunned.**

**-has his troops reduced from 32,000 to 300  
-promised victory by lighting a torch,  
breaking some pottery and blowing trumpets.**

**3. David was in the right position to take down the giant, even though he lacked military experience, training, equipment, and the support of his brothers. He stayed in position, submitted to King Saul, even though He was an anointed hero.**

**-1 Samuel 17**

**4. Jesus was in position to fulfill His destiny as the Lamb of God by going where He knew He would be arrested and surrendering to evil men He knew would send Him to the cross.**

**-The right position is to forgive the betrayals, abuse, lies, and slights, inflicted by others, but it will hurt.**

**-The right position is to patiently wait in position until God fulfills His word.**

**-The right position is stand up to intimidation when you feel small and unsupported, but it's scary.**

**-The right position is to honor authority and respect those appointed by God, resisting rebellion and self-promotion.**

**-The right position is to obey and do what God says, even when the plan makes no sense and doesn't appear to have the slightest chance of success.**

**-The right position is to lay down your life and your rights for no earthly gain and no expectation of being recognized and thanked for your sacrifice.**

**-Every faith hero who said yes to the one right position, said no to all the wrong ones first.**

**-Say yes to the right thing first, not after you run out of all the other options!**