

Application in Community

Welcome: Praise the LORD that you joined us for worship. You are welcome here and we invite for you to join our community. We have several types of small groups that meet during the week. For information, head to the Information Center where our Director of Connections, Tia, will help you learn how to get involved at Grace.

Application Questions:

- Summarize the reasons Nero blamed Christians for starting the fire in Rome on July 19, 64 AD.
- Do you believe there are misunderstandings about Christianity & history in our culture that has resulted in Christians being blamed for the problems of America? What are some of those misunderstandings?
- Read 1 Peter 1:1-2 – this is a summary of the entire book of 1 Peter – what are the major themes Peter describes in vv. 1-2? How might these themes relate to our feeling of blamed for societal problems?
- Read vv. 3-6 – what (according to vv. 3-5) do we rejoice in (v. 6) even while in the midst of trials for being Christian?
- Read vv. 6-9 – what is the goal of trials in the Christian life?
- How does the above inspire you or help you endure?

Wondering where the Bulletin is? Scan here...



Thriving in Culture's Fire

1 Peter 1:1-9

1 – Why Peter wrote this letter and how it relates to you and me –

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

2 – Rejoice amidst culture's refining fire, **GOD** is using It & guarding you –

1 Peter 1:3 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, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ 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 honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ 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, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

