



“Expect the Fires and Rejoice in Their Midst”

Small Group Discussion Questions

14th in the “Elect Exiles” Series

1 Peter 4:12-19

February 25, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Talk about situations that you might have responded to differently if you really thought of suffering for Christ as something that we should expect? (this could be personal experience, media stories, or any number of things)

- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.

- 3) Talk about the difference between suffering WITH faith, and suffering FOR faith.

- 4) As a Christian, have you ever faced suffering that caused you to question your faith, or tempted you conclude untrue things about God and salvation.

- 5) How does the biblical analogy of purifying precious metals help you understand what is happening in your own life when you suffer for Christ? How might this make it easier to process suffering as it happens?

- 6) Verse 13 talked about future reasons to rejoice in your suffering, and verse 14 talked about current reasons that you are blessed for suffering. Talk about the difference between these and the value of both.

- 7) Verse 15 challenges us not to confuse consequences of our own sin as suffering for Christ, and even encourages us to be careful not to let a life characterized by sin smear the name of Christ in the eyes of our accusers. How did you understand the discussion around the term meddlers on that list?

- 8) What are some ways that we as Christians can be tempted to be meddlers? Where have you personally faced this issue?

- 9) Verse 17 reveals that God’s judgment is not the same thing as condemnation. Just as one places gold in the fires of purification expecting a good outcome, God’s judgement of his own people can reveal what is pure and good. Why is this important to know?