

THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD

Hope Beyond Suffering

1 Peter 1:3-12 | Kevin Yule

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Read the passage aloud as a group: 1 Peter 1:3-12

1. As we begin this letter, Peter uses the following words in this passage to point us to hope from the midst of difficulty. He helps us focus on what is "next" to get us through the "now." Which of the following words from this passage are particularly meaningful to you right now in your walk with the Lord. Why do those words stand out to you?
 - Mercy
 - Born Again
 - Living Hope
 - Resurrection
 - Inheritance
 - Guarded
 - Ready (to be revealed)
2. Peter tells the dispersed believers in verse 7 that their faith is being tested. How does God test our faith? Have you been tested? How would a person know if they passed or failed God's tests in their life?
3. Peter mentions in verse 8 indescribable joy. He uses phrases that share a joy that is unfathomable, and given to us by Jesus when we were saved. How is your "joy meter" in your current season? What are some contributing factors or reminders? Can others detect it by your demeanor?

CONNECTING IN COMMUNITY

4. Pastor Kevin shared how easy it is to forget the joy of our salvation when we face problems and trials in our lives. How can we as believers—or even within our own group—minister to each other in better ways? Be specific. What did David do in Psalm 51?
5. This past Sunday we heard wonderful stories of life transformation. Which ones stood out to you and why? As you reflect on 1 Peter 1:3-12, where do you see direct connections between this passage and the stories shared?"

LIVING ON MISSION

6. The believers in this letter are displaced and suffering socially—likely even materially. Take some time as a group and talk about people or places where you know of believers facing difficult circumstances because of their faith in Christ. End the night praying for those situations.