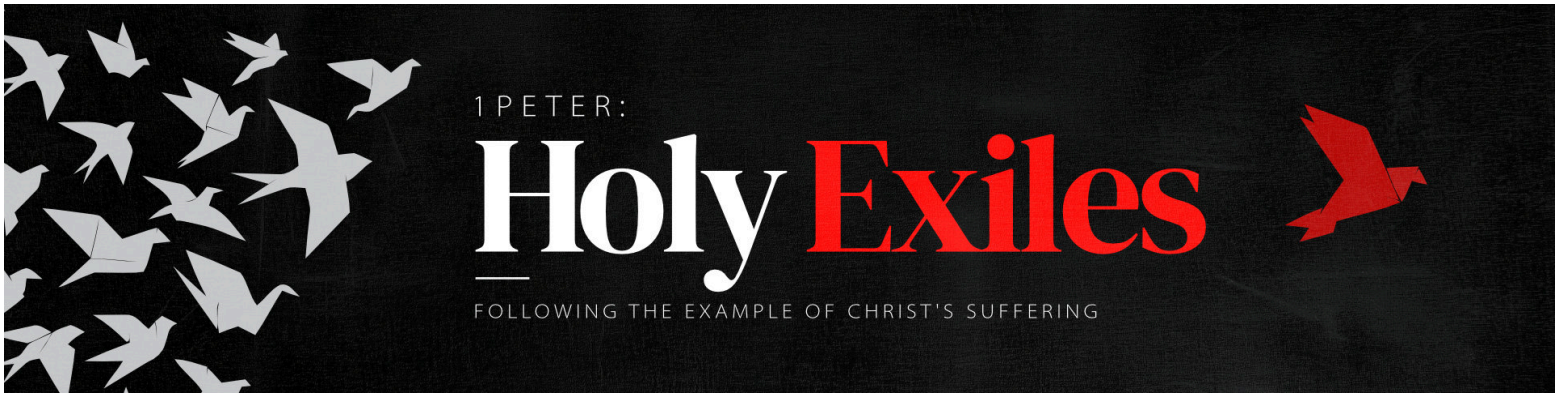


1 Peter 2:18-25

Getting Started…

"That's not fair!" Every parent has heard their child yell this at some point in their life and for good reason. We naturally don't like it when things are unfair. As we grow up, our sense for fairness and justice becomes more nuanced but the instinct doesn't completely fade. God created us to reflect him, and that includes our desire for justice, but in a fallen world that can be warped or lost. We face injustice and unfairness all the time, the question is how we are called to respond. While the Bible has plenty to say about working for justice, it also calls us at times to wait patiently for God's justice. Peter, as he addresses his audience calls them to submit to over them as the entrust themselves to God's perfect justice. In this way, we follow the example of Jesus as he faced the greatest injustice the world had ever seen, for us.

Read the Text: 1 Peter 2:18-25

18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and
gentle but also to the unjust. **19** For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God,
one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. **20** For what credit is it if, when you sin
and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you
endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. **21** For to this you have been
called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you
might follow in his steps. **22** He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his
mouth. **23** When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did
not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. **24** He
himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to
righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. **25** For you were straying like
sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Understanding the Word

1. How does Peter's call to servants to submit, begin to unravel the institution of slavery?
2. Peter refers to Isaiah 53 in verses 21-25, read the chapter and find each reference. How does Peter apply these things to Jesus?

Reflecting on the Sermon

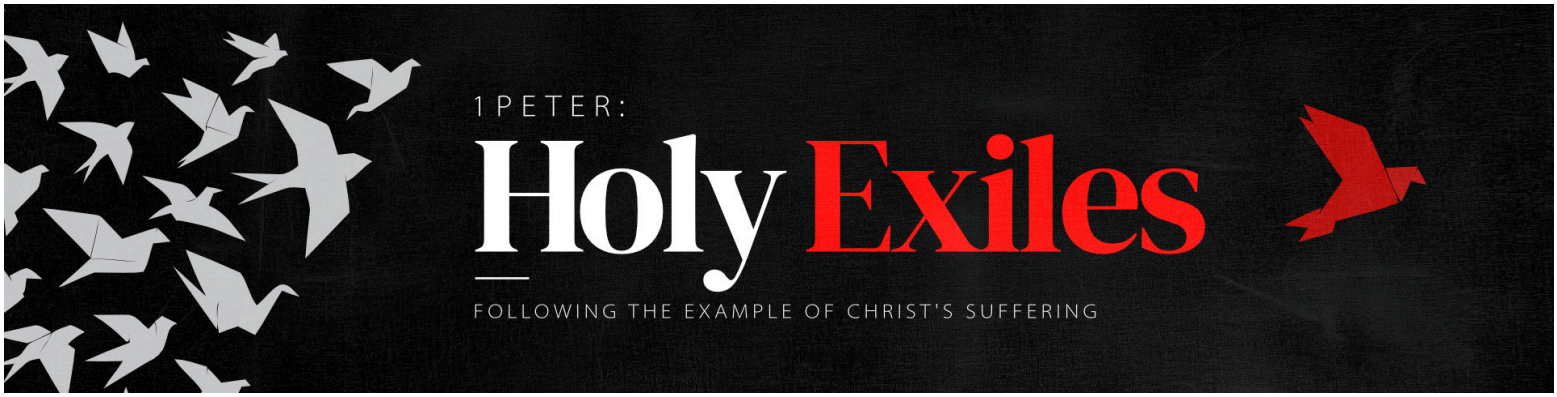
3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been applying to your heart from the sermon?

Applying the Point

5. Where do you find it most difficult to submit at work? How can we work in such a way that honours God?
6. What does it look like to be mindful of God while suffering? What are practical ways that we can do that? Being that suffering can happen for a long time, how do we persist in that over time?
7. How do we follow the example of Jesus in his suffering? In what ways are we not supposed to follow him? In what ways are we supposed to follow him?

Praying & Sharing

1. How can you share what you have learned with… another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Promontory Small Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Small Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God**.

The Small Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

"Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them." - *Psalm 111:2*