

JUNE 11, 2023

LIVING STONES

WHEN WE SUFFER WHAT SHOULD WE DO? 1 PETER 4:12-19

1) We expect trials to be a normal part of our lives.

John 15:20 ... *"Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours."*

Truth: Our sufferings do not change who God is, they do reveal what we believe.

2) We expect to suffer for following God.

3) We look at our sufferings as opportunities to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

Matthew 5:10–12 ... *"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*

4) We respond to suffering with faithfulness.

Pray for the SBC Annual Meeting

- 1) Father, would you take us into your Presence and let everything we do be God-initiated? (Psalm 16:11; Exodus 32:12-16; Psalm 32:8-11)
- 2) Father, would you give us all repentant hearts, eager to confess all known sin before God and man and to maintain a clear conscience throughout the gathering? (Acts 24:16; 1 John 1:5-10; Ephesians 4:29-32)
- 3) Father, would you help us see the path to redeem the next generation for Christ? (Psalm 78:1-8; Isaiah 44:1-5)
- 4) Father, would you posture us to cooperate with you for the next great spiritual awakening in our nation and the acceleration of the gospel around the world? (Psalm 86; Isaiah 40:3-4; Joel 2:12-17)

Memory Verse for May-June

“For I am sure that
neither death nor life, nor
angels nor rulers, nor
things present nor things
to come, nor powers, nor
height nor depth, nor
anything else in all
creation, will be able to
separate us from the love
of God in Christ Jesus
our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39

From the Resources

When through fiery trials
thy pathway shall lie,

my grace, all sufficient,
shall be thy supply;

the flame shall not hurt thee;
I only design

thy dross to consume,
and thy gold to refine.

- George Keith (1787)
*How Firm a Foundation,
Ye Saints of the Lord*