

What are some troubles we may encounter in life?
What might people say when we encounter trouble?
What do we tell ourselves when we encounter trouble?
What does God say when we encounter trouble?

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When following Jesus is hard
1 Peter 4:12-5:14
ref.ly/1Pe4;niv



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1 Peter 1:1-2

To God's elect, exiles scattered...
Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

3

1 Peter 4:12-5:14

4:12-16 Following Jesus can be hard

4:17-19 God uses suffering and trouble

5:1-4 ...as church leaders

5:5a ...as those under church leaders

5:5b-9 ...for everyone

5:10-11 What God will do

5:12-14 Final greetings

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1 Peter 4:12-16

Following Jesus can be hard

¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

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1 Peter 4:17-19

God uses suffering and trouble

¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And,

"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

¹⁹ So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

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1 Peter 5:1-4

...as church leaders

^{5:1} To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them— not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

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1 Peter 5:5a

...as those under church leaders

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders.

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1 Peter 5:5b-9

...for everyone

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble."

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

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1 Peter 5:10-11

What God will do

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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1 Peter 5:12-14

Final greetings

¹² With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

¹³ She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark. ¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

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The Big Idea

God uses trouble

but it is never the end of our story in Christ

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Application

Trust God in trouble like Jesus did

- "Do not be surprised" when trouble comes
 - God has authority over all things
 - Trouble can only reach us through God
 - **And God uses trouble**
- Don't grumble or complain
- Don't give up
- Accept the path God has put you on
- Keep doing what is good and right
- **Christ's joy will be our joy!**

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Application

Put ourselves in God's care

- "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, **that He may lift you up**" 5:6
- "Cast all your anxiety on him because **he cares for you.**" 5:7
- God's caring presence today

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Application

Look forward to eternal glory in Christ

- “The God of all grace, **who called you to his eternal glory in Christ**, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.” 5:10

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Jesus' description of the promise:

- "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. **Come and share your master's happiness!**" Matthew 25:23
- "Come, you who are **blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.**"
Matthew 25:34

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Grief in all kinds of trials... "have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—**may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.**" 1 Peter 1:7

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*So then, those who suffer according to God's will
should commit themselves to their faithful Creator
and continue to do good.*

1 Peter 4:19

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