

- 1) The message on Sunday began with an illustration of a canoe trip some people took last month that ended when the forest around caught fire. Where were you during the smoke of the last forest fire? What would you have done in their situation?
- 2) Should someone who knows they are living in God's favour ever really fear what their circumstances are? Why or why not?
- 3) What is 'just' suffering and what is 'unjust' suffering? Read 1Peter 2:19 – ideally in several different translations of the original ancient Greek. What is the key factor in bearing the pain of unjust suffering? Why do you suppose that is the most important factor?
- 4) Read 1Peter 2:20-24. What things did Christ do as an example to us who bear the pain of unjust suffering? What else did Christ do in this regard that Peter didn't have time to list? Why did Christ do such things, according to our study passage?
- 5) Look at your answer to question 4. What enabled Christ to do such things? Consider your answers to question 3 in your response.
- 6) During the message, Pastor Marcus belaboured the point that Jesus was sent to live and suffer unto death for us by the will of the Father SO THAT we might be saved. Who are you sent to? In what way have you suffered so that they might know the blessing of everlasting fellowship with God our Father?
- 7) Rev. Dr. Edward Clowney observed, "*Peter does not ask us to view suffering as inevitable in the world under the curse. He does not ask for stoic resignation. A life of suffering is our calling, not our fate. It is our calling just because we are God's people. It is our calling because it was Christ's calling. He calls his disciples to follow him.*" Pastor Marcus' point was that suffering for others so that they can know more of God's blessing is the epitome of living in God's favour. How does knowing that help you honour the Lord in this season of your life?