Joy Arising from Hope
1 Peter 4:1-2, 12-19

The Point: Suffering for Christ can deepen our walk with Him.

I. In the face of suffering, think like Christ...vv. 1-2
   a. Arm yourselves also with the same mind.
   b. He who suffers in the flesh has ceased from sin
   c. Do not waste the rest of your time here on earth living for sin

Lasting Truths from vv. 1-2
- We should faithfully follow Christ, no matter the cost or consequences.
- The Holy Spirit can prepare us for suffering for Christ’s sake.
- We should no longer want to live for ourselves, but for Christ

II. In the face of suffering, rejoice in Christ...vv. 12-14
   a. Do not be surprised when you are persecuted for Christ.
   b. Rejoice that you have suffered for the name of Christ!
   c. We are blessed when we suffer for the name of Christ.

Lasting Truths from vv. 12-14
- Do not be surprised when you experience suffering for Jesus.
- We may share in sufferings now, but we will share in glory later.
- We have the power of the Holy Spirit to testify about the Son of God!

III. In the face of suffering, give glory to God...vv. 15-19
   a. Suffering for righteousness rather than wrongdoing.
   b. There is no shame in suffering for Christ.
c. We should be concerned about the lost people around us.

d. Commit yourselves to God and do good!

**Lasting Truths from vv. 15-19**

- Be sure you are suffering for righteousness instead of wrongdoing.
- Persecuted believers will be vindicated
- Our current suffering does not compare with the eternal suffering the lost will face.
- Commit yourselves to God and do good!

**Apply It!**

- Develop a proper mindset toward dealing with sin & pursuing God’s will.
- Embrace suffering as an opportunity to rejoice in Christ & depend on Him.
- Let the Holy Spirit change your perspective on difficult circumstances you will face or are facing.