**Suffering Injustice**

**Sermon Based Discussion (February 21, 2016)**

**Living Faith, 1 Peter, part 2 (5)**

**WARM UP**

1. The world teaches us “Don’t get mad, get even”. How have you seen this philosophy in others or in your own life?

Though we may instinctively want to retaliate when we are wronged, Peter shows a different way to respond in this passage.

**INTO THE BIBLE (Read 1 Peter 3:8-22)**

1. In 3:8, Peter lists five key qualities that every Christian should have. What are they? Describe each in your own words. Did they come naturally to Peter? (Mark 8:31-33) Do they come naturally to you?
2. How are Christians to respond to evil or insult?
3. Peter quotes from Psalm 34 in 3:10-12. What does God do for His people? What do God’s people do?

1. In 3:14 Peter calls suffering for what is right a blessing. What are those blessings?

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. If Christians are not to retaliate, when suffering injustice, can Christians defend themselves or flee if they are physically threatened?
2. In the guideline about suffering given in 3:17, Peter says it is better to suffer for doing good. How can it be God’s will? Give examples from this passage and the Bible.
3. Peter summarized the Gospel in a single verse, 3:18. What are the elements of the Gospel you see?

**DIFFERENCE**

1. 1 Peter 3:19-21 are some of the hardest verses to interpret in the New Testament.  Why do you think Peter uses the example of Noah here? What is the overall point God wants us to embrace from this paragraph?

**APPLICATION**

10. How should one prepare themselves for possible persecution? (3:15-16)