

1 Peter 4:12-19 “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. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. <sup>17</sup> 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? <sup>18</sup> And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” <sup>19</sup> So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.”

1. **I Will Suffer**
2. **My suffering is Complex and Multilayered**
3. **I am not always the Victim**

### **The Do’s and Don’ts of How To Suffer with Hope**

1. **Don’t be Surprised**
  - 1 Peter 4:12 “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.”
2. **Do Rejoice**
  - 1 Peter 4:13 “But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.”
3. **Do be Selective of My Suffering**
  - 1 Peter 4:15-16 “If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.”
4. **Do Commit My Suffering**
  - 1 Peter 4:19 “So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator...”
5. **Do Good**
  - “...And continue to do good.”