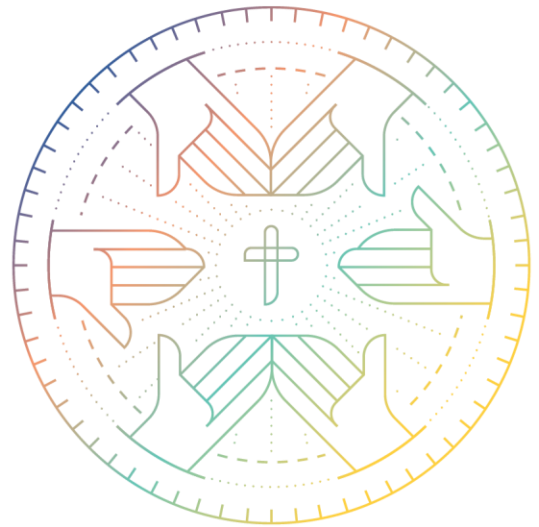


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What's the best piece of advice you've ever received about handling tough times?

OR

What is your favorite way to relax and unwind after a stressful day?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Read 1 Peter 4:1-19. What most stood out to you from Pastor Paul's message? What idea did you find most helpful?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Romans 8:17. How does this passage strengthen us to endure suffering?

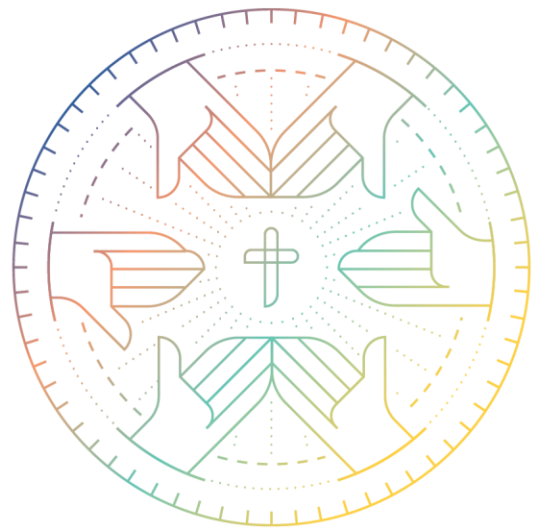
Read Isaiah 53. How does the description of the servant's suffering bring greater understanding to what Christ endured for humanity? How does this impact your view of His suffering?

Read James 1:2-4. James encourages us to "count it all joy" when we are suffering. How does this passage deepen your understanding of the importance of this instruction?

Read John 15:18-20. How does this passage encourage us when we face persecution or mockery due to our faith? How can it encourage us?

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APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

What's one specific way to apply this message to our lives?

When Jesus faced suffering, He accepted it without complaint and recognized its eternal purpose. How can we shift our focus away from why questions and instead place our trust in God?

Pastor Paul encouraged us to live differently because the end is near. What steps can we take to ensure we are using our time wisely to advance God's kingdom?

How can we practice being alert, sober-minded and self-controlled?

DAILY THIS WEEK

Read Ephesians 6:10-20. Imagine yourself putting on each piece of armor before leaving the house.

Surrender the human tendency to bemoan in suffering and instead choose joy. Spend time praising God for who He is, acknowledging His faithfulness and goodness.

Reflect on trials you have endured. Make a list of how God transformed you during that season.

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the example of Jesus, who suffered in the flesh for our sake. Help us to arm ourselves with His mindset, embracing Your will in all circumstances. Strengthen us to live for Your purposes, showing love and hospitality to those around us. May we find joy even in persecution, knowing we are sharing in Christ's sufferings. Guide us to take our next right steps in faith, trusting in Your perfect plan. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.