

Sermon Discussion Guide:

Living as Sojourners

Sunday, August 8, 2021

Scripture: **1 Peter 1:3–9**

OVERVIEW

As believers, we live in tension every day. The world—with its values, priorities, and customs—is constantly pushing back against the church. Sometimes the pushback is trials, and at other times, the world demands for us to reorient ourselves to their values, priorities, and customs. We, as believers, are sojourners—or visitors passing through. This world is not our home, but a temporary residence. **The promise of future glory gives the believer courage to pursue godliness and persevere while living as sojourners.**

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Ephesians 2:1; Romans 6:4–5; Hebrews 9:28; Colossians 3:1–4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways do you sense the tension of living as a sojourner in a foreign land? How has worldly culture sought to inform or change the values, priorities, and customs we are called to in Scripture?
2. A sojourner is a temporary resident. Do you feel like your life is lived in such a way that other people would see you as a temporary resident here, or as someone who is building your own kingdom here and now? What would your checkbook reveal? What would your use of your free time reveal? What would your viewing history on Netflix reveal? What would time with your kids or friends reveal?
3. Do the benefits of facing trials—the tested genuineness of your faith, purified by fire (verse 7) lead you to praise Him? Or do you struggle with complaining, with doubting God and questioning why you are suffering? Does it help to meditate on the truth that things that grieve us now will lead us to inexpressible joy (verse 8)? Does it help you to remember in moments of suffering that God means it for your good?
4. Tim mentioned that “suffering is the product of living godly lives in this present age.” In what ways then can we prepare for suffering and combating temptations? (vv 13–15)