

Dealing With An Impossible Boss

I Peter 2:18-25

Series: Standing Strong In The Storms of Life Part I – Part 8

Introduction “Getting the bigger picture:”

I. A Very Difficult Command – v.18

A. In Peter’s Day

B. In Our Day

II. The Explanation for Such a Command – v. 19-20

III. The Reason and Purpose of This Command – v. 21-25

- A. Our Calling
- B. Christ's Example
- C. The Principle at Work

IV. The How and Why for "Christ's Reputation"

We must follow His example in unjust suffering.

Discussion Questions

1. Imagine yourself as a slave (non-person, piece of property) in Peter's day. Why would this command to submission be difficult for you?
2. Discuss in your group the whole concept of "our rights" as individuals and relate how this passage addresses that concept in certain situations.
3. When, according to this passage, is it not commendable to endure suffering (v.2:20)?
4. What is the primary motivation in this passage to endure unjust suffering? How does the example of Christ move you to endure what is unfair in some area of your life?
5. Jesus endured because He focused on the goal of His suffering (Hebrews 12:2 and I Peter 1:13). What was the goal of Jesus' suffering?

- 6.** This passage has been misapplied in some situations and done immeasurable harm. Answer the True and False statements by examining the listed passages to keep a clear balance on this teaching of “enduring suffering.”
- T F You should never try to escape from unjust suffering (Luke 4:28-30; Acts 9:23-25, 28-30. Also Matthew 2:13-15; Acts 12:6-11, 23:1-10)
- T F God intends any suffering you experience and does not want to pray for or seek escape from it. (Psalm 109:21-31; 116:1-11; Matthew 26:39, 41.)
- T F You may always seek to know what purpose God might have for your suffering. (Proverbs 16:4; John 15:15.)
- T F There is no such thing as unjust suffering; you are a sinner, so you deserve your suffering. (Matthew 2:16, Luke 13:1-5, John 15:18-19, 2 Timothy 3:13.)
- 7.** What would “obedience/trusting God” look like if you were enduring some unjust suffering with some authority figure in your life?