

GOSPEL | COMMUNITY | MISSION

May 10, 2020 1 Peter 1:1-12 (Part 1) "Grieving Saints Gladdened by the Gospel"

QUESTIONS

(potential discussion/conversation questions to use in your GGs this week)

1. ICE-BREAKER: In honor of Mother's Day, what is your favorite story or memory about your mother?

2. Pastor Tony gave the sound advice, "It's safe to assume that everyone is dealing with something in their life; and it's safe to assume that no one is over-encouraged." Would anyone like to share something they are currently struggling with or grieving? (NOTE TO LEADER: after each person shares, ask a volunteer to pray for this brother or sister).

3. When you face suffering, what are you tempted to turn to other than Jesus and the Gospel? (Pastor Tony's examples: anger; envy; self-pity; functional saviors like drugs, entertainment, fitness).

a. Why don't these things bring lasting comfort or encouragement?

b. Why, then, do we keep returning to these lesser saviors?

c. What are some strategies that can help us choose to go to the Gospel in a time of suffering?

4. Verse 3 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be *born again to a living hope* through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." (emphasis added). Would anyone like to share your personal 30-second testimony of how and when you were "born again to a living hope"? (NOTE TO LEADER: if you are in a large group, you may want to limit how many people you ask to share *or* emphasize that people stick to 30-seconds. If you are in a smaller group, you may extend each person's time to a minute or two and ask each person to share.)

5. What else from this text or sermon stuck out to you or encouraged you in some particular way?