

*Suffering with Grace*

*1 Peter 4:12-19*

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Introduction

*What should I be thinking when my faith is challenged?*

I understand in a small way what Christ went through for me.  
(13, Matthew 16:21-23)

- Application: thank Christ for the cross when we encounter difficulties.

I know my priorities in life. (14-16)

Types of suffering:

1. Because I am stupid. (15)
2. Because I love Christ. (16)

- Application: live each day with clear convictions.

I know what is at stake. (17-18)

- Application: see the character quality being formed.

***1 Peter 4:12-19***

<sup>12</sup> 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.