



Discussion Guide: Faithful Exiles on the Margins

Passage: 1 Peter 3:13—4:6

Summary: How do you respond when you suffer or are marginalized for faithfully following the way of Jesus? Taking our cue from Jesus, Peter invites us to suffer in a way that gives God glory and invites the world to see the goodness and hope of the Gospel.

Discussion Questions:

1. When we faithfully follow Jesus, we will be maligned. How would it feel to be called a “hater of humankind” (what the Roman historian Tacitus called Christians in the 1st century)? What would be your first response? Fight, flight, fawn, or freeze?
2. Peter calls them (and us!) to not be afraid, but instead to stay faithful and to stay present with your neighbors so that you’re ready to give an answer for the hope that’s in you in a winsome and respectful way? He calls us to a non-anxious, faithful presence. This is the most effective evangelism strategy! Why do you think that is? What has that looked like in your life?
3. How can we be a non-anxious, faithful presence? Peter says it’s because of Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, where He has declared victory over every evil spiritual power. How does this confusing section give real help to us as we try to live as non-anxious, faithful people among our neighbors?
4. Peter invites us to “arm ourselves” with the same mind that Christ had when facing suffering? What was Christ’s mind towards suffering? What would that tangibly look like for us?