



1. Welcome (an ice-breaker discussion to get everyone comfortable with sharing):

Are you a person who sets new year's resolutions? Share why, or why not. Either way, what are some things you want to see change for you in 2025?

2. Worship (to draw our hearts to the Lord and invite Him into our discussion):

Suffering is part of life here on earth, but we know that for Christians, it will one day end! Sing "Hymn of Heaven" together in anticipation of that day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LleCuXmulpk>

Dozens of other worship songs are also available at www.westhighland.org/smallgroupsongs.

3. Word (to consider how the sermon applies to our lives, and to live out the "one anothers"):

Read together: 1 Peter 3:8-17

Sermon Summary

This passage teaches us to live in harmony, demonstrate love, and respond to mistreatment with blessing instead of retaliation. Peter emphasizes the importance of guarding our speech, turning from evil, and actively pursuing peace, reflecting God's character in our actions. Peter assures us that suffering for righteousness is not in vain, as it builds up blessings and treasures in heaven. He also urges us to be prepared to give a reason for our hope, doing so with gentleness and respect. By honouring Christ in our hearts, we endure opposition with courage and grace, knowing that our ultimate inheritance and God's watchful care provide hope and strength in the face of trials.

Sermon Questions

1. How am I doing in living out the five characteristics Peter commends to the church in 1 Peter 3:8?
2. Read 1 Peter 3:9. How do you respond when you are wronged? How can you seek to bless those who hurt you?
3. What does it look like to actively pursue peace in your relationships, especially in challenging situations?
4. Based on verse 15, what does it look like to always be prepared to give a reason for the hope you have in Christ?
5. What does it look like to suffer for doing good in today's world?
6. What is something you can apply to your life this week?

4. Witness (joining Jesus in his mission):

Share with each other some of the opportunities over the Christmas season that you had to share the good news of Jesus, with family members, neighbours, colleagues, other. Spend time praying for those who had a witness given and for whom you are concerned, that need Jesus.