

**Stand Firm: Standing Firm in the Security of Salvation – Part 3**

**Sermon # 3, 1 Peter 1:6-12**

**Main Point: The security of God’s eternal salvation anchors me through trials.**

**Getting to Know You**

1. What are your typical reactions when you go through a rough time in life? (i.e. “I panic,” “I cry,” “I try to fix it,” “I pray,” etc.)

**Getting into the Book**

**Read 1 Peter 1:6-9**

2. What words are used to describe the type of joy Christians can have in hard times? (see verses 6 & 8)
  - a. How is it possible for joy and grief to coexist like this? (Review verses 1-5)
  - b. Do you have a story of how you have experienced this type of joy through trials?
3. Peter uses the illustration of gold passing through intense heat in order to be purified. He also says that our faith is of greater worth than gold. How has God refined your faith through trials, or how is He doing so now?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 and Revelation 21:4. Imagine what it will be like to stand with Jesus one day when all suffering is gone. Describe to the group what you think it will be like (keeping 1 Corinthians 2:9 in mind).
5. Read James 1:2-4. What does James say God accomplishes through trials?

**Read 1 Peter 1:10-12**

6. What advantage do we have over the prophets who wrote God’s word in times past? See also Luke 10:23-24.
7. What evidence do these Scriptures lend toward the inspiration of Scripture?
  - a. What does 2 Peter 1:20-21 tell us about the origin of the Bible?
8. Can you think of some prophecies about the sufferings and glory of the Messiah that were, or will be, fulfilled in Jesus?
  - a. Sufferings: See Isaiah 53 & Psalm 22
  - b. Glory: See Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 7:13-14

**Getting out There**

9. Considering what we have learned, and what you already know, about God’s purposes for trials; how would you encourage a Christian friend who is suffering?
10. Is there a trial you are currently facing, about which you would like the group to pray?

**Pray**

Spend time in prayer as a group, asking God for His grace to trust Him through trials. Also, spend time thanking Him that your salvation is secure in Christ because it is His eternal plan.