

THE HUMBLE WITNESS

July 18, 2021

1 Peter 3:13-22

- I. My witness is effective when my _____ is greater than my _____. v. 13-15a

To be blessed in suffering is to be _____ no matter the circumstances.

Am I _____ for doing good despite the cost?

Do I see suffering as an active _____ to witness?

- II. My witness is effective when _____. v. 15b-17

The picture of an effective witness:

1. Witness with _____.
2. Witness with _____.
3. Witness with a good _____.
4. Witness with a _____.

Suffering can take many forms. Share an example where a decision did lead to suffering – how did you respond in the suffering? Did you actively view it as an opportunity to be a witness? Why or why not? What characteristics of an effective witness, described by Peter, do you find more challenging? Why?

3. APPLY THE TRUTH

Our highest purpose in this life is to glorify the Lord and fulfill the Great Commission. As you reflect on this scripture passage, and knowing that more suffering for Christians may lie ahead of us, what is one intentional thing you can do this week to be ready and prepared for seizing the opportunities to witness in the midst of that suffering?



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SMALL GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Is my passion for the mission so consuming that it is more important to see others _____ than my own _____?

III. My witness is effective because Christ _____. v. 18-22

If we are sealed for eternity _____, we can rely on His power in the midst of suffering to be a _____.

_____ **I WITNESS DETERMINES THE**
_____ **OF MY WITNESS.**

Stewardship Report:
Last Week: \$7,952.00
This Month: \$14,495.00
Last Month: \$22,579.00
Monthly Budget: \$26,531.00



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1. STUDY THE SCRIPTURE

Read 1 Peter 3:13-22. In what ways were the people Peter is writing to suffering? What does it mean to be blessed in the midst of suffering? Rather than fear or avoid it, how does Peter encourage us to view suffering?

What are some characteristics of an effective witness in the midst of suffering that Peter provides?

How are the examples of Jesus Christ and Noah's family encouraging to us as we face suffering? Can you think of other Biblical examples to follow?

2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

Every day we face decisions where choosing the right path might lead to suffering. Share an example where, like Peter when Jesus was being questioned and tortured, you may have chosen fear of man over honoring God. What kept you from choosing to honor God first? Were there consequences to that decision?

