

CONNECT

- ⊙ What stood out to you most from the sermon this weekend?
- ⊙ Discuss this quote from Tim Keller: *"What if, in the future, we came to see that Jesus could not have displayed such glory and love any other way except through his (own) suffering, and that we would not be able to experience such transcendent glory, joy, and love any other way except by going through a world of suffering? And why could it not be that our future glory will actually so swallow the evil of the past that in some unimaginable way even the memory of evil won't darken our hearts, but only make us happier?"*
- ⊙ How could this be so?

ENGAGE

Read 1 Peter 1:3-13

- ⊙ Re-read verse 6. What does it look like to rejoice even when we are grieved by various (fiery - 1 Peter 4:12) trials? What encourages/helps us to do so?
- ⊙ What does Peter point us to hope in? Why do we struggle to do so?
- ⊙ Where else are you tempted to put your hope?

Read 1 Peter 5:6-11

- ⊙ What is the significance of verses 10-11? (e.g. How long is a little while? What is the significance of Christ himself restoring etc?)
- ⊙ Why is this important?

APPLY

- ⊙ *"Contrary to what we expect to be the case, therefore, the deeper into weakness and suffering and testing we go, the deeper Christ's solidarity with us. As we go down into the pain and anguish, we are descending ever deeper into Christ's very heart, not away from it. Look to Christ. He deals gently with you. It's the only way he knows how to be."* (Gentle and Lowly - p.57)
- ⊙ What is something you can do practically to remind you/help you cling to this hope in times of struggle?

PRAY

Pray for one another, that you would be able to cling to this hope in times of struggle.