



## SDG Discussion Guide

### 1 Peter 4

November 18, 2018

For starters:

Who or what was your first “true love” growing up?

Are you neat or messy or somewhere in between? Elaborate.

What has been memorable to you in the last seven or so days and why?

Guideline: The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.

As you can, read aloud the passage in your group; read it aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the Message after first reading from the ESV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address *these*. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. How can suffering change a person’s life for the better? How have you seen this to be true in your own life?
2. Why would the radical change in lifestyle of the Christians be so upsetting to their non-Christian friends or family (v 4)?
3. How does your lifestyle differ from that of your non-Christian friends? From verses 7-10, what are some priorities that a Christian should have in their life?
4. What standard does Peter set for us in this passage regarding what we say and do?
5. What false assumption does Peter set straight in verse 12? How often are you surprised at the trials or crises of life?
6. What effect has past suffering had on your commitment to God?
7. If you were to rate yourself on the “love meter” from 1 (shallow) to 10 (deep), how have you been doing lately at showing love to another?
8. What form does your suffering for Christ take? How does verse 19 comfort and assure you?
9. In a way that you are gifted, how can you serve someone this week?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to continue to speak to you from his word in this passage. Continue to thank Him for His presence in your life. Ask Him for insight for where and how to serve someone this week. Go forth once again with the knowledge and conviction of the power of the Lord God Almighty.

\*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).