

STUDY QUESTIONS—Leader's Guide*"Be holy, because I am holy"*

Scripture Reading: I Peter 1:6-9, 13-16; 2:9-13, 4:2

Leaders: It would be valuable to prepare for this study by reading through all of I Peter. This book gives us a picture of *how* to be holy. Spend some time digging into this book and challenging your own perceptions on the meaning of our trials. Discussion this week will focus on how God will use our present sufferings to strengthen our faith in order to set us apart (make us holy).

Getting Started

Would you rather have beauty or brains?

Can you recall a time when you wanted "x", and got the complete opposite? (at work, birthday, Christmas, gift, haircut)? How did you feel?

Digging Deeper

When something difficult comes your way, how do you perceive God's presence in your life?

Now read I Peter 4:12 and I Peter 1:6-9. We often pray for God to deliver us from a situation, but consider Peter's perspective. What was his view on suffering?

As these trials are happening, you are being set apart and made holy (through your suffering).

Why is this a hard concept to grasp?

Can I become "holy" by other means (instead of pain)? Read I Peter 2:9-13. How would Peter answer?

Read I Peter 1:13-16. Verse 13 says "prepare your minds for action." What does that mean?

We should not just sit. We are called to action. You act on what God has said. It will not be easy, like a battle or war.

Paul tells us to be self-controlled, which is hard to do when your life feels so out of control. What are some ways that we tend to lose control when life is hard? What can we do to remain "self-controlled"?

Lastly, Peter tells us to "set your hope fully on the grace to be given." Are you better off with our hope being set in circumstances or in Christ?

Hope in Christ is an unshakable assurance in the holiness of God and His ability to make us more like Him.

Application

Read I Peter 2:9. How does your reaction to hard circumstances reveal the ways God has "set you apart"?

What is one thing you will do this week to remind yourself to be holy as God is holy?