



December 6th, 2009  
Sermon Based Studies

Group Member Guide

**“Surviving Life” #16**  
I Peter 4:12-19

Text: I Peter 4:1-11 <sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup>But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup>For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup>And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" <sup>19</sup>Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

### Getting to know me

1. Have there been some “fiery trials” that you are willing to share with your group? Did you learn something from that trial?
2. Are there any Bible characters who have faced hard times that inspire you to keep going when it is tough going?

### Into the Bible

1. Sometimes you hear the phrase “the new normal.” Something which was the exception before is now “normal” or the expected. Peter says that “fiery trials” are the “new normal” for those he is writing to. Though we are not facing official persecution, there are ways that our culture works against us. If we are to expect opposition, how can we respond to that?

