

Surviving Life
“How to Suffer Well” (13)
11/15/09

Text: 1 Peter 3:8-17

Suffering is one of God’s intended strategies for the success of His mission to *“Go and make disciples of all nations...”* WHOA!

Q. – How can we counter-balance the weight of suffering that threatens to undo us?

WE COUNTER-BALANCE THE WEIGHT OF SUFFERING THROUGH...

1. **F** _____ /C _____
– v.8 *Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.*

WE COUNTER-BALANCE THE WEIGHT OF SUFFERING AS WE...

2. **REMEMBER THE G** _____ – v.9-11
⁹Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

WE COUNTER-BALANCE THE WEIGHT OF SUFFERING AS WE FOCUS HARD ON...

3. **GOD’S L** _____ – v.12-14 *¹²For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” ¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,*

WE COUNTER-BALANCE THE WEIGHT OF SUFFERING THROUGH...

4. **E** _____ – v.15-17 *¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.”*

