

For the week of November 22, 2020

Preacher: Dan Westman

# Lean Into the Fire

*Eleventh week in the series: FLOURISH*

**1 Peter 4:12-19**

We spend much of our lives trying to avoid or alleviate the pain that we experience. However, the key to flourishing is not to run from our pain. Rather, as followers of Jesus, we must expect to suffer and learn to lean into our suffering. When we do, we will learn that suffering is not our enemy, but a tool for growth and an opportunity to glorify God.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. Are you ever surprised at the amount of hardship that you experience? How have your expectations regarding suffering changed in this last year?
2. The command to rejoice in our suffering is counterintuitive at best. Are you able to rejoice in your suffering? What practices or attitudes help you rejoice even when you are in pain?
3. Do challenging circumstances tend to drive you toward God or away from him? How might you draw closer to Jesus through the challenging circumstances of 2020?
4. What does it look like to trust God in the midst of your suffering?