

## Sermon Study Guide –

### 1 Peter 4:12-19

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Week of June 26, 2022

Title: **“Rough Ride to Heaven”**

**Sermon Idea:** Suffering for Jesus is a road sign that tells you that you’re on the right road...even if it’s bumpy!

#### Key Points:

It’s a rough road to heaven, but rejoice because...

1. future glory is assured. Vv.12-13
2. present glory is experienced. Vv.14-16
3. the God of Glory is in control. Vv.17-19

**What do I want people to know?** I want people to know that suffering is part of living for Christ in this dark world, but that they can experience joy even in the midst of it. This is done by focusing on the nearness of Jesus as they suffer and the hope of future glory.

**What do I want people to do?** I want people to (1) “not lose the dove,” (2) cooperate with God’s discipline in your life, (3) entrust their suffering to God.

**What need am I addressing?** I am addressing the need to find strength in Christ in the midst of persecution.

**Recommended Resources:** *“Pilgrim’s Progress,”* John Bunyan; *“The Sensitivity of the Holy Spirit,”* R.T. Kendall

**Intro:** Have you ever read “Pilgrim’s Progress?” What do you remember about Christian’s trials? What trials are common to those who seek to follow Jesus?

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#### Dig:

**Day 1: 1 Peter 4:12-19** reveals some difficult but encouraging truths about suffering in the life of a believer. What is difficult? What is encouraging?

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**Day 2: 1 Peter 1:6-7** had already introduced the topic of suffering. On what basis does Peter encourage the people to “rejoice” in their sufferings?

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**Day 3: Hebrews 12:1-3** describes how Jesus endured suffering. What was the key for Him? What mindset is needed in order to have this perspective?

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**Day 4: 1 Corinthians 11:27-34** is a disturbing warning about not eating the communion elements in an “unworthy manner.” What is the

warning? What kind of judgment is this: earthly or eternal?

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**Day 5: Luke 23:46** are the last words of Jesus. What does it mean for Jesus to “commit” His Spirit to God the Father? How is this a display of faith in suffering by Jesus?

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#### Apply:

- Judgment is coming! Trust in Jesus as your Lord and Savior if you haven’t.
- Are you suffering right now? Is it for doing good? Is it for being a Christian? Is it a form of discipline? Ask God to clarify that to you.
- Remember, “Don’t lose the dove!” Jesus kept on the rough road by keeping in step with the Spirit.

**Pray:** Lord Jesus, I choose the same path You did – the eternal one of faith, rather than the earthly one of sight. Help me to remember that the road to heaven is rough but that by faith I will arrive. My trust is in You alone. In Jesus’ name, amen.

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