

LIKE Jesus
Follow Jesus with Joy!
First Christian Church—Sunday, November 20, 2022
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I have some good news and some great news...

The paradox of being able to rejoice in our suffering
is the unique experience God prepares only for followers of Jesus.

God's Story: Follow Jesus with Joy! Hebrews 12:1-13

1. Many Witnesses=Martyrs have gone before us. We are not alone. Stay in the race! (1)
2. Keep your eyes on Jesus! He saw Joy on the other side of his suffering. (2-3)
 - What joyful thing did Jesus see beyond the cross? (1 Peter 3:18a)
 - We too can rejoice when we suffer for the Gospel and for others. (Philippians 2:17-18)
3. Stop whining! You haven't shed *your* blood yet in your struggle against sin! (4)
 - So don't be surprised when life hits the fan. (1 Peter 4:12-13)
 - Not everyone will be happy that you are following Jesus... (1 Peter 4:3-5)
4. View hardship as discipline from your loving Heavenly Father. (5-11)
 - This "discipline" shows that we are truly God's Children. He has not neglected us!
 - Jesus' brother, James got it—there is purpose in our suffering. (James 1:2-4)
 - Sometimes we suffer for doing good. It's how we follow Jesus. (1 Peter 2:20-21)
5. Man up! Woman up! Watch your step! (12-13)
 - This is a quote from (Proverbs 4:25-27)

What did you discover in this story? _____

BIG Idea: When you suffer for following Jesus, Rejoice!
Remember, he suffered for you!

Right On N.T. Scripture Reading: **1 Peter 4:12-19**

Live Like Jesus—Week 8, Day 4