

Arm Yourself...

1 Peter 4:12-14 ¹² Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. ¹³ Instead, be very glad-- for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world. ¹⁴ So be happy when you are insulted for being a Christian, for then the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. (NLT)

1 Peter 5:6-11 ⁶ So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. ⁷ Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. ⁸ Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are. ¹⁰ In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. ¹¹ All power to him forever! Amen. (NLT)

1 Peter 4:1 So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. (NLT)

Philippians 2:5-6 ⁵ You must have the same attitude [or the same mind] that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to [to be exploited]. (NLT)

1) The First Step Is to Rejoice!!

1 Peter 4:13a ¹³ Instead, be very glad-- for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering... (NLT)

Acts 5:40b-42 They called in the apostles and had them flogged. Then they ordered them never again to speak in the name of Jesus, and they let them go. ⁴¹ The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus. ⁴² And every day, in

the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: "Jesus is the Messiah." (NLT)

1 Peter 4:14 So be happy when you are insulted for being a Christian, for then the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. (NLT)

Matthew 5:11 Blessed (happy) are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. (NIV)

2) Stand Firm, Stay Alert, Stay Humble.

1 Peter 5:6-11 ⁶ So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. (NLT)

Matthew 5:4-5 ⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. (NLT)

1 Peter 5:7 ⁷ Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. (NLT)

3. God Has Called You! Amen!

1 Peter 5:10-11 ¹⁰ In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. ¹¹ All power to him forever! Amen. (NLT)

1 Peter 5:11 All power to him forever! Amen. (NLT)

PRAYER:

*Lord Jesus, I acknowledge to You that I have sinned against You in many ways. I believe You died on the cross for my sins. I want You to come into my life and be my savior. Forgive me of all my sins and give me the gift of eternal life. Come into my life and be my Lord and help me become the person You want me to be.
Amen.*