

Suffering for Christ

1 Peter 4:12-19

June 9, 2019

INTRODUCTION Risk versus **reward**

- Luke 6:27-28; 18:29-30; 21:12-19
- Acts 1:8
- Acts 4:13, 18-19, 21, 29, 31
- Acts 5:13-14, 18, 25, 29, 40-41
- 1 Peter 4:12

??? Why should I do what is good and right (live a Christ-centered life) if I am going to suffer for it ???

SERMON “Suffering for Christ” (1 Peter 4:12-19)

1. Orients me toward Christ's **return** (12-13)
2. Reveals the **power** of the Holy Spirit (14)
3. Is a means to be a **witness** for Christ (15-18)

Book to read: ***The Insanity of God*** by Nik Ripkin ★★★★★

The Insanity of God tells a story—a remarkable and unique story to be sure, yet at heart a very human story—of the Ripkens' own spiritual and emotional odyssey. The gripping, narrative account of a personal pilgrimage into some of the toughest places on earth, combined with sobering and insightful stories of the remarkable people of faith Nik and Ruth encountered on their journeys, will serve as a powerful course of revelation, growth, and challenge for anyone who wants to know whether God truly is enough.

God has said, “You are now free, and you are to share the gospel with **everyone** .”

We are now free . . .

- To be great citizens
- To **love** our neighbors
- To be courageous **witnesses**

About today's speaker: Rob Karch

Rob was born in the birthplace of Grunge, Starbucks, and Microsoft (otherwise known as Seattle) and raised in Forest Grove, Oregon. **Martine** grew up in Montreal, with French as her first language. They met on a mission trip in Paris, France, got married, and moved to Quebec. Rob learned French. They have two children, and now live in Montreal, and are heavily involved in French-speaking church planting. Over the past 20 years, they have planted churches, sent out church planters, and continue to assess, mobilize, train, and send out French-Speaking church planters for the cause of the Gospel in the French-speaking world.

Rob currently coaches church planters with a dozen denominations in Quebec, is part of the teaching team for the French-speaking Redeemer City to City incubator church-planter training program, and is an assessor with the Multiply 3-day church-planter assessment event. Rob is also an elder at a local church, preaches and teaches regularly across Quebec and the U.S. Martine is putting her degree in fashion design to use in the fashion industry in Montreal. They are passionate about a French-speaking church-planting movement welling up in Quebec, and overflowing to the rest of the French-speaking world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What stood out to you about Jesus' teaching to his disciples regarding suffering?

How do you respond when you hear stories of courageous suffering for Christ like what is found in Acts 5?

When has suffering in your life directed your eyes toward Christ and His return?

How can the promise of the Holy Spirit's power revealed in suffering change how we approach suffering?

Tell about a time in your life when suffering opened the door to share your hope in Christ.

How does Christ's voluntary suffering because of His love for you affect your love for Him?