

Introduction

1. Gretchen passed from this life last Sunday... Naturally, many of us ask, “Why?” But that might not be the right question.
2. Paul David Tripp, *New Morning Mercies*, Jan 2: “Human beings have a deep desire to know and understand. We spend much of our daily mental time trying to figure things out. We don’t live by instinct. We don’t leave our lives alone. We are all theologians. We are all philosophers... This drive [to know and understand]... [is] holy, created by God to draw us to him, so that we can know him and understand ourselves in light of his existence and will. But sin makes this drive... dangerous. [It] tempt[s] us to think that we can find our hearts by figuring it all out. It’s the ‘If only I could understand this or that, then I’d be secure’ way of living. But it never works. In your most brilliant moment, you will still be left with mystery in your life; sometimes even painful mystery. We all face things that appear to make little sense and don’t seem to serve any good purpose. So rest is never found in the quest to understand it all. No, rest is found in trusting the One who understands it all and rules it all for his glory and our good.”
3. There is no rest in asking why because we can’t understand the why. We only see one piece but God sees the whole puzzle... The question to ask isn’t *why* but *how*. That’s exactly what Peter wrote about at the end of his first letter. He wrote to teach them how to suffer well as followers of Christ. Everybody suffers, but as Christians, we are called to suffer differently.
4. Subject: **How do we endure suffering as Christians? How should followers of Jesus suffer?**
5. Scripture: [1 Peter 5:6-11](#) (NIV)

Body

1. As Christians, we endure suffering with humility. Followers of Jesus suffer with God’s help. ([1 Peter 5:6](#))
2. As Christians, we endure suffering with trust in God. Followers of Jesus suffer with faith. ([1 Peter 5:7](#))
3. As Christians, we endure suffering with self-control. Followers of Jesus suffer with sober-mindedness. ([1 Peter 5:8-9a](#); [1 John 2:12-14](#))
4. As Christians, we endure suffering with hope. Followers of Jesus suffer with confident expectation of the future. ([1 Peter 5:10](#); [2 Cor 4:16-18](#))
5. As Christians, we endure suffering with one another. Followers of Jesus suffer together. ([1 Peter 5:9](#))
 - [Psalm 62:5-7](#)
 - [1 Peter 5:11](#)