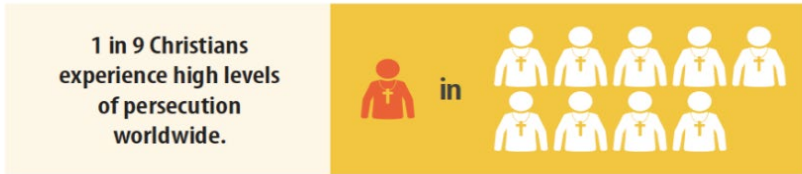
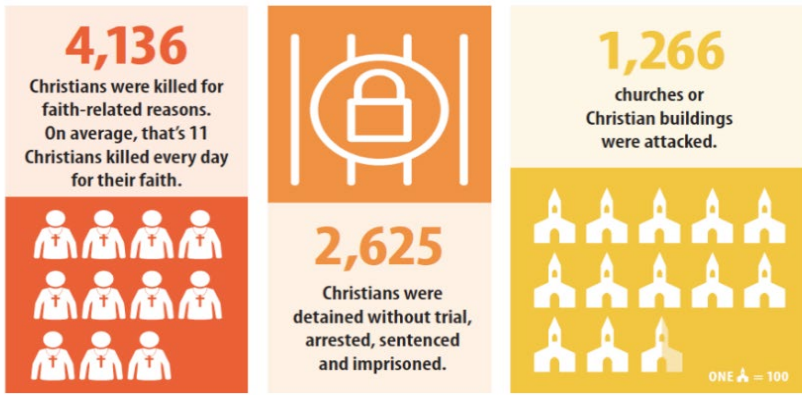


PERSECUTION BY THE NUMBERS



During the World Watch List 2019 reporting period, in the top 50 countries:



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does this teaching change your view of wearing the name "Christian?"
- In what situation in your life are you under fire for Christ and how are you now going to respond based on this passage?

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Answers to fill in the blanks:
 • IDENTIFICATION, 219, 345, 105 2. CULTURALLY 3. WITHIN 4. SPIRITUALLY
 THE DO'S AND DON'TS FOR CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE
 1. SURPRISED A. DEMOCRACY AND PEACE B. SIN
 2. REJOICE A. ALONE B. SHINES
 3. DISOBEDIENCE A. GOVERNMENTAL B. MORAL AND SOCIAL
 4. ASHAMED A. 3 B. BADGE
 5. GLORIFY A. OBEYING, PRAISING, GOSPEL B. LATER
 6. CREATOR A. GOOD, POWERFUL B. PRAYER

Sermon Study Guide
Pastor Phil Newby – July 21, 2019

SERMON NOTES

CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE FIRST PETER 4:12-19

MAIN IDEA: IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT CHRISTIANS ARE UNDER FIRE FOR THEIR HOPE IN CHRIST YET THEIR PROPER RESPONSE SHOULD BE JOY, OBEDIENCE AND TRUST, HONORED TO WEAR THE BADGE OF CHRIST.

Question: How can Christians give the hope of Christ to a fallen world that is growing more hostile toward them every day?

HOW ARE CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE TODAY?

- CHRISTIANITY IS THE MOST _____
 _____ IN THE WORLD.
 - Christian persecution is defined as any hostility experienced as a result of _____ with Christ.
 - Every month _____ Christians are detained without trial, arrested, sentenced and imprisoned.
 - Every month _____ Christians are killed for faith related reasons.
 - Every month _____ Churches and Christian buildings are burned or attacked.
- CHRISTIANS ARE UNDER FIRE _____.
- CHRISTIANS ARE UNDER FIRE FROM _____.
- CHRISTIANS ARE UNDER FIRE _____.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

THE DO'S AND DON'TS FOR CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE

1. **DON'T BE _____ WHEN UNDER FIRE 4:12**

1 Peter 4:12 (CSB)

¹² Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you as if something unusual were happening to you.

- A. Some would have you think that mankind is headed toward worldwide _____, but the Bible tells a different story. (Matthew 24:6-9)
- B. _____, the seedbed of persecution, should horrify us but never surprise us.

2. **DO _____ IN SHARING CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS 4:13-14**

1 Peter 4:13–14 (CSB)

¹³ Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

- A. Peter is not _____ in promoting the paradox of joy in the midst of suffering. (James 1:2)
- B. When Christians suffer for Christ God's glory _____ through us. (Exodus 34:35, Acts 6:15)

3. **DON'T SUFFER FOR _____ 4:15**

1 Peter 4:15 (CSB)

¹⁵ Let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or a meddler.

- A. The first two offenses bring the wrath of _____ authorities.
- B. The second two offenses don't refer to lawbreaking, but to _____ offenses.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

4. **DON'T BE _____ TO SUFFER FOR CHRIST 4:16a**

1 Peter 4:16a (CSB)

¹⁶ But if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed...

- A. Only _____ verses use the term "Christian" in the Bible which was a derogatory term in the early church. (Acts 11:26, Acts 26:28)
- B. Suffering for Christ is a _____ of honor, God's not ours!

5. **DO _____ GOD WHEN CALLED A CHRISTIAN 4:16b-18**

1 Peter 4:16b–18 (CSB)

...but let him glorify God in having that name. ¹⁷ For the time has come for judgment to begin with God's household, and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who disobey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And if a righteous person is saved with difficulty, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?

- A. We glorify God by _____ His Word, _____ God and sharing the _____.
(Acts 5:29, 40-42)
- B. What Christians suffer now cannot be compared to what the unbelievers will suffer _____.

6. **DO ENTRUST YOURSELF TO YOUR _____ 4:19**

1 Peter 4:19 (CSB)

¹⁹ So then, let those who suffer according to God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator while doing what is good.

- A. Faithful Creator means all _____ and all _____.
- B. This involves turning our situation over to God in _____.