

Counter Culture Week 5

Main Idea

To live counterculturally for Jesus, we need to endure opposition, entrust ourselves to God, and bless our enemies.

Starter

What is the most rewarding thing you have ever had to train for?

Discuss

Share a way someone served or blessed you in the last week and what you appreciated about it.

Scripture

Pick three different people to read one of the following passages: [1 Peter 2:19-24](#), [1 Peter 3:8-9](#), and [1 Peter 4:12-19](#). As they read each passage, have everyone listen for the word or phrase that most encourages or challenges them.

- Share the truth that most encouraged or challenged you and why.
- Where in your life do you feel the most opposition to your faith? How do these passages speak to how God wants you to treat those who oppose you?
- What is a recent situation where you have had to
 - endure opposition to your faith
 - entrust something you could not control to God, or
 - bless a difficult person
 - What happened and what did you do?
- How do you think you could better represent Jesus to people you feel are difficult?

Apply

Have everyone take a minute to pause and pray about one truth God wants them to embrace from His Word this week and one step they could take to love someone difficult in their life.

Share any prayer requests you have. Spend some time praying for the persecuted church around the world as well as your Hope church family.