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A Study Through 1 Peter



Fully Known Teaching Series Book
February 2–March 1, 2020
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About 1 Peter

The letter of 1 Peter was written by the apostle Peter, as affirmed in 1:1, as well as when he restates his claim to being an “eyewitness” to the suffering and life of Jesus (see 5:1). The scope of Peter’s life - from being a fisherman to walking closely to Jesus during His ministry to his accounted denial of Christ to his appointment of the leader of the first church - provides immense insight and encouragement to living as a disciple.

WHY WAS 1 PETER WRITTEN?

Peter wrote this letter to encourage Christians dispersed throughout Rome, or “Babylon,” to persevere with fullness of hope in the midst of their suffering and persecution as a result of their faith. While the emphasis of persecution - verbal or physical - is not designated, many scholars agree the emphasis throughout the letter seems to rest upon a verbal and mental discrimination because of their Christian beliefs. Peter’s words sought to remind his readers to reflect on the end-time result and joy of salvation, enjoying God’s promises, here and now as believers navigate their life of faith. The content of 1 Peter directly addresses the idea of giving oneself entirely to God, from our thoughts to our actions to our worries, as the means of enjoying salvation found in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

COMMON THEMES OF 1 PETER

- Being a Christian and suffering are not mutually exclusive. Rather, how Christians handle suffering is a way to bear witness for the message of Jesus.
- The humility Jesus showed in His suffering and submission is an example for all believers.
- Jesus died as a substitute for sinners, and His death is the basis for new life with God.
- New life found in Jesus is expressed through living righteously in our homes and the world around us on the basis of love and holiness.



SUGGESTIONS FOR USING THIS BOOK

The goal of this book is to help you spend time with Jesus in His Word as we venture through 1 Peter as a church. We hope you will engage with this tool in the following ways:

Church Services: Bring this with you to take notes, write down questions or key insights throughout the sermons in this series.

Groups: If you are in a group that makes use of the Message Discussion Guides, feel free to use this book to share what the Holy Spirit is teaching you during this series. Our groups are environments where people come together regularly to belong and grow in their faith with others. (to find out more about joining a group, head to fcc-online.org/groups)

Devotions: The “GOALS” pages of this book are designed to help you grow in your personal walk with Jesus. There are four weekly readings and space to write out a response to the reading. Feel free to use this resource and revisit this study for future reference as well!

For more info and instruction about a GOALS Journal, flip to the back cover of this book.

Week One

SERMON NOTES



□ 1 Peter 1:1-5 □ 1 Peter 1:6-12 □ 1 Peter 1:13-21 □ 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

This week's readings:

"HOLY" WORD STUDY

The word "holy" is used 8 times in the letter of 1 Peter and comes from the greek word - hagios - meaning, "to sanctify and be set apart." Throughout the Bible, holiness is used as a description and attribute of God that is to be shared by His people. To be "holy" is not just a reference into the righteousness of someone, but it specifies the other-ness of that person or group. So, in some ways, the call to be "holy" is a command to live and act rightly as well as to be different and distinct to the world around them. 1 Peter emphasizes that holiness comes from Jesus and is best expressed in how we choose to love everyone despite the circumstances we find ourselves.

1 Peter 1:1–5

G: What does this passage teach me about **God**?

O: What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?

A: How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?

LS: Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?

1 Peter 1:6–12

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 1:13–21

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 1:22–2:3

G:

O:

A:

LS:

Week Two

SERMON NOTES

□ 1 Peter 2:4-10 □ 1 Peter 2:11-17 □ 1 Peter 2:18-25 □ 1 Peter 3:1-7

This week’s readings:

“SUBMISSION” WORD STUDY

A form of the word “submission” appears 6 times throughout the letter of 1 Peter and has its root in the greek word - hypotasso - meaning “to put under or into subjection.” Throughout the Bible, the same term tends to connote an obedience in following an example or pattern set by another. Whether its submission to God, governing authorities, or one another in love, Peter sees the command of submission as following the example laid before us by Jesus as He fulfilled the plan of God through His death and resurrection. While submission may not always be fun or easy, it is a chance to trust in God, the help of the Holy Spirit, and the example of Jesus.

1 Peter 2:4–10

G: What does this passage teach me about **God**?

O: What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?

A: How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?

LS: Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?

1 Peter 2:11–17

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 2:18–25

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 3:1–7

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 3:8–12

G: What does this passage teach me about **God**?

O: What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?

A: How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?

LS: Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?

1 Peter 3:13–18

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 3:19–22

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 4:1–6

G:

O:

A:

LS:

Week Four

SERMON NOTES

1 Peter 4:7-11 1 Peter 4:12-16 1 Peter 4:17-19 1 Peter 5:1-4

This week's readings:

“LIVING” WORD STUDY

We see the word “live” or “living” some 16 times throughout 1 Peter. There are many different roots in the original language, but the most common is the greek word “zao,” where we get a meaning of “the conduct of oneself as they live their life with attention.” Some, not all, of the references to how one should be living have connections to the community or others (i.e. harmony or love). It’s important to see that Peter is stressing the necessity that the faith of a believer should be a) changing how we live and b) positively impacting the lives of those around us.

1 Peter 4:7–11

G: What does this passage teach me about **God**?

O: What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?

A: How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?

LS: Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?

1 Peter 4:12–16

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 4:17–19

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 5:1–4

G:

O:

A:

LS:

1 Peter 5:5–9

G: What does this passage teach me about **God**?

O: What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?

A: How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?

LS: Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?

1 Peter 5:10–14

G:

O:

A:

LS:

(REVISIT) 1 Peter 1:13–23

G:

O:

A:

LS:

G:

O:

A:

LS:

What is a GOALS Journal?

The GOALS Journal is a method for personal devotions. Each letter of the word helps to guide us to unpack a passage of Scripture for better understanding of the Bible as well as living out what it says. Authentic growth in our faith consists in transformation of both our head knowledge and heart change. Namely, as we learn more about God and His word we begin to yearn in living out those truths.

Our hope for the GOALS Journal is to provide a consistent way for you to grow in your relationship with God. While most of us will complete these portions during our personal devotions, we encourage you to unpack your insights and applications with a group or discipleship mentor.

After reading the suggested passage, spend time answering the following questions to complete a GOALS Journal:

- G:** What does this passage teach me about **God**?
- O:** What does this passage teach me about **others** and myself?
- A:** How do I need to **act** in faithful obedience to this truth?
- LS:** Who in my **life** do I need to **share** this truth with?



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