

Getting Started

Share your most significant learnings from our 9-week study on 1 Peter.

Discussion

Read 1 Peter 5:6-14

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. ¹³She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. ¹⁴Greet one another with the kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

- Highlight and discuss what this passage teaches us about the following:
 - God and His character
 - Our human condition and the world in which we live
 - Sin(s) to confess
 - Promises to claim
 - Commands to obey

- What does it look like to “humble ourselves” under God’s mighty hand so at the proper time He may exalt you?

- The word “casting” is very active and intentional. Discuss what the phrase “casting all your anxieties” on God means in your life.

The Greek word for “devil” means slanderer, a malicious enemy who maligns believers. He and his forces are always active, looking for opportunities to overwhelm the believer with temptation, persecution and discouragement. Satan sows discord, accuses God to men, men to God, and men to men. He will do whatever he can to drag Christians out of fellowship with Christ and out of Christians service. And he constantly accuses believers before God’s throne, attempting to convince God to abandon them/us.

- Considering these truths, why is it so critical for us to be sober-minded and watchful. Are there times when you have that you let your guard down? What were the consequences?
- How are we to resist Satan and his spiritual forces of evil (Ephesians 6:10-13)? What does this look like in practice?
- 1 Peter 5:10-11 is a wonderful summary of the entire letter. There are 6 truths/principles with a powerful promise. Pick 1-2 points and share how you plan to apply these truths in your life.
 1. *After you have suffered*: Suffering is EXPECTED in the Christian life. Don't be surprised!
 2. *a little while*: Suffering is only TEMPORARY for the believer. It is critical to have the correct vision/perspective on eternity (2 Cor 4:16-18).
 3. *the God of all grace*: Having a correct understanding of God and His CHARACTER will help us maintain the correct PERSPECTIVE. Here we focus on God's grace to save, sanctify, sustain, and glorify us.
 4. *who has called you into his eternal glory in Christ*: God has called us into His glory in Christ and He has a PLAN for our lives. He will work through everything in our lives to conform us to the image of Christ. Having a correct understanding of who we are in Christ will help us "stay in the game". We are a royal priesthood, holy nation, people belong to God, etc.
 5. *will himself restore, confirm, strengthen and establish you.*: God PROMISES to restore, confirm, strengthen and establish every believer. No matter if the pain of suffering is from the broken world, self-inflicted wounds from our own sinful choices, or for following Christ, God is in the process of fulfilling His promise and His work will be completed perfectly in heaven. Remember Peter's restoration experience with Jesus in John 21.
 6. *To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*: Our response to all of this is to WORSHIP God. Praise Him for who He is and thank Him for all He has done. (1 Peter 1:6-9)

Prayer

Pray 2 Peter 1:3-11 into your lives as we look to confirm our calling and election by God's grace and look ahead to our entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

³ His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴ by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹ For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.