



# STUDY GUIDE

August 7-  
October 23

The background of the right side of the cover features a textured, greyish-blue sky with a large, dark, stylized cloud in the upper right. White lines representing rain fall from the cloud. Below the sky are dark blue, angular shapes representing mountains or hills. At the bottom, there are teal-colored, wavy shapes representing the sea. The word "TESTED" is written in a bold, black, serif font, slanted upwards from left to right, across the mountain and sea areas.

**TESTED**

**A SERMON SERIES  
ON**

A white, elegant, curved line flourish that starts under the word "ON" and sweeps down and to the right towards the text "1 Peter".

**1 Peter**





# 1 PETER

## A STUDY

*on the book of 1 Peter*

---

**August 7 - October 23**

---

© 2022 City Church

Beijing, China

All rights reserved.

Written by TJ Johnson

Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.





# STUDY GUIDE

August 7

TESTED

IN THE WORLD  
NOT  
OF THE WORLD

1 Peter 1:1-12



# In the World Not of the World

1 Peter 1: 1-12

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:  
May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, 11 inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. 12 It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

~~~



# In the World

# Not of the World

This week we begin a new series in the book 1 Peter. I do hope you take some time to read through the book in one sitting. Surprisingly, it will only take you about sixteen minutes...probably some of the most productive sixteen minutes you will spend all week.

On Sunday we will discuss the first twelve verses of chapter one. It is a rich section loaded with wonderful truths about God the Father, Son, and Spirit.

The book itself is written to faithful followers of Jesus scattered throughout modern-day Turkey. At the time, it was a Roman controlled area and therefore paid homage (worship) to the Emperor. The believers are most likely not natives to the region, but have been dispersed there through regional persecution. In other words, they are outnumbered expats, learning what it means to live the Christian life in a hostile environment that sees the Christian worldview as backwards, exclusive, and threatening to their superior way of life which includes the worship of government (Caesar is Lord) and the embrace and indulgence of gross sins (including sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry), and yet in spite of this these Christians are not called to retreat from society, but rather suffer faithfully in order to be a witness to the world of the superior pleasures found only in Christ for there is coming a day when Jesus will return to judge the world and only those in Christ will find their temporary suffering transformed into eternal glory.

WOW....that was a really long sentence. Now you know a bit of what it's like to read 1 Peter 1:3-12 in the Greek...that too is one LONG sentence.



# In the World

# Not of the World

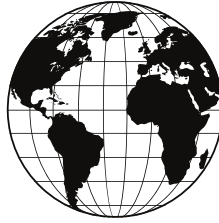
When we began Song of Solomon I cautioned against over-interpreting and encouraged you to step back and get the general picture rather than getting too bogged down in the details. I actually want to encourage the opposite with 1 Peter. The run on sentences and complex sentence structures makes this text hard to follow at times. Therefore, we must slow down and focus on the details. We must learn to ask good questions of the text. For example, are we elect according to the foreknowledge of God or are we exiles according to the foreknowledge of God? For that matter, what does foreknowledge even mean? Does Peter use it elsewhere that might give some clue as to its meaning? What is the “this” referring to in verse six? Is the “praise and glory and honor” mentioned in verse seven speaking of God’s or ours? Etc.

That being said, I hope you are not afraid to do the hard work of exegesis. This book is extremely practical for our present life. We too are exiles. We too live in a culture whose values are vastly different from ours. We too suffer for our faith in various ways. We too are called to suffer faithfully as a witness to the world around us until Christ returns to transform our temporary suffering into eternal glory.

Learning with you,

Pastor TJ





*Living hope*

## Discussion Questions

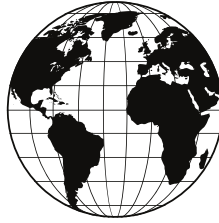
1. Take some time to discuss the context of this book. (Who wrote it, to whom, when, where, etc.)
2. Read 1 Peter 1:1 & Hebrews 11:13-16. In what ways were God's people in the Old Testament and New Testament exiles, and in what ways are we today exiles?
3. How does the exile mentality help us live holy lives in our homes, workplaces, and communities and what would be some wrong ways to think of ourselves as exiles?
4. Read 1 Peter 1:1, 6, Acts 8:1, and Acts 18:2. In what ways did the early church experience suffering as Christians?
5. Read 1 Peter 4:12-14. What are some ways you have suffered persecution (family, workplace, govt, etc) because of your faith and how you coped with that suffering?
6. Read 2 Peter 2:7-9. In what ways are you too grieved/suffering (tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds) over the sins celebrated by the world today?



*Living hope*

## Discussion Questions

7. Read 1 Peter 1:1. What does the word elect mean and how does Peter's use of this word bring hope to these suffering exiles? (Be sure to give Biblical support for your answers, not just opinions you feel...where else is this word used? In 1 Peter look for the word "chosen", it's the same Greek word).
8. Read 1 Peter 1:2, 20. What is the Father's role in your salvation and how does this reveal His great love for you?
9. Read 1 Peter 1:2, Acts 2:23. How does knowing the Father has foreknown our circumstances (exiles/suffering) give us hope and joy (see also v. 3, 6-9) in the midst of hardships?
10. Read 1 Peter 1:2, 10-12. What role does the Holy Spirit play in our salvation?
11. Why do you think Peter mentions the Holy Spirit so early in this book? How is this theological truth meant to encourage us in our lives now?
12. Read 1 Peter 1:2. What role does Jesus play in our salvation?
13. What Old Testament connection is Peter making about Jesus and why? What other Old Testament connections has Peter made in this text?

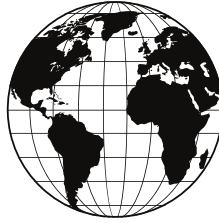


*Living hope*

## Discussion Questions

14. Read 1 Peter 1:3. Why does Peter call our hope “living” and how does that compare to the world’s hope?
15. Read 1 Peter 1:3. What is the inheritance that Peter speaks of and what does he reveal about that inheritance when he says it is “imperishable, undefiled, and unfading”?
16. Read 1 Peter 1:4-5. What comparison is Peter wanting us to make when he says that our true inheritance is kept in heaven, guarded by God and how can you apply that to your life today?
17. Read 1 Peter 1:5, 8-9. What role does faith and love play in salvation?
18. What is ONE thing you can do in response to your study today?





*Living hope*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

August 14

**TESTED**

**OBEDIENCE  
STARTS  
WITH THE MIND**

**1 Peter 1:13-21**



# Obedience Starts with the Mind

1 Peter 1: 13-21

13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." 17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, 18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you 21 who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

~~~





*Prepare your minds*

## Discussion Questions

1. Why did Peter write this letter to the believers in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia?
2. Why is it important for believers to be strong in the mind?
3. What does Peter mean when he writes to the church to “gird up the loins of your mind?” Give examples of this in your lives.
4. Read 1 Peter 1:14. Why do you think God hates ignorance? What is the cause of ignorance? What is the result of ignorance? Discuss a time in your life that you refuse the wisdom of God and the results.
5. Read 1 Peter 1:14 and Romans 12:2. What do these scriptures have in common? Why is it important to not be a part of the world system (operation)?
6. Describe being sober-,minded as a believer?
7. Read 1 Peter 1:15-16. What does it mean to be holy? How do we apply this to our daily lives?



*Prepare your minds*

## Discussion Questions

8. Read 1 Peter 1:17-18. What is the most important reason we should be holy before God? Discuss the blood of Jesus and what it does for us.
9. Read 1 Peter 1:22 and Ephesians 5:26. Describe how the Word of God works in our lives. Discuss examples from your life about the power of the Word of God.
10. Discuss the mind transformation process. Create a plan of action for obeying God's Word for transformation.



*Prepare your minds*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

August 21

TESTED

LOVE

ONE

ANOTHER

1 Peter 1:22-2:3



# Love One Another

1 Peter 1: 22-2:3

22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for

“All flesh is like grass  
and all its glory like the flower of grass.  
The grass withers,  
and the flower falls,  
25 but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

2:1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

~~~

# Love One Another

Here is the logical progression of the first half of 1 Peter. Peter starts by reminding the church that God LOVES them (1 Peter 1:1-12). You have been rejected by the world, but CHOSEN by God. Next, Peter goes on to challenge the church to be HOLY in an unholy world (1 Peter 1:13-21). In other words, Peter calls the church to respond to God's love by LOVING God through holy living. Thirdly, Peter progresses in this theme of love by challenging the church to LOVE one another (1 Peter 1:22-2:3).

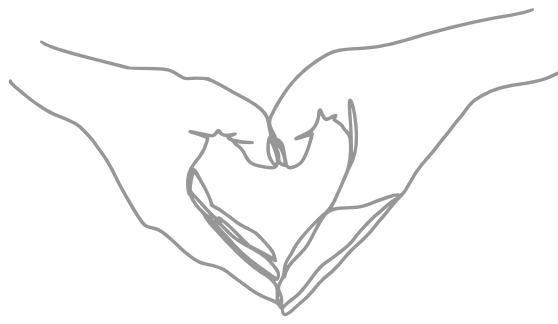
In times of suffering you may be tempted to turn on one another, but the opposite is needed...Christ-like love for the body of Christ. From there Peter will discuss how the church can LOVE the world. He will address our evangelistic witness as a Kingdom and Priest (1 Peter 2:4-12). Then he will move on to specific examples of how we can love the world. How to love an unjust government (1 Peter 2:13-17). How to love a cruel boss/master (1 Peter 2:18-25). And how to love members of your own household (1 Peter 3:1-7).

This Sunday we will look at the command, "love one another." Only when we properly understand God's love can we return that love properly to God. Only when we learn to love God can we begin to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. And make no mistake; this is a mark of the Christian. Jesus Himself said, "They will know you are my disciples by your LOVE."

Over the past several years we have "been grieved by various trials." These trials can stagnate our love for the body. It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit through the Holy Scriptures will flow fresh waters into our soul igniting in us a passion and power to love. And may that love be seen by the world and bring glory to God.

In Him,  
Pastor TJ

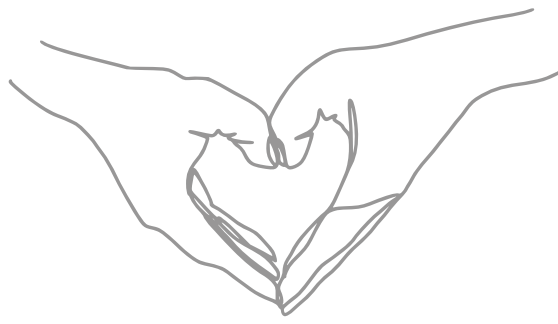




*Love one another earnestly*

## Discussion Questions

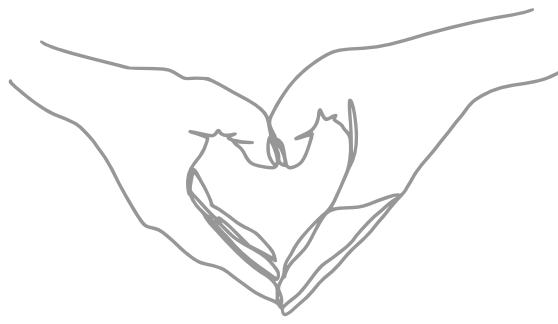
1. Share with the group any special holidays or celebration of love that your country has and discuss the role love plays in the Christian faith?
2. Read 1 Peter 1:22. What does it mean to have your soul purified and in what way(s) does the Word (truth) purify our soul?
3. How is God's commitment to purifying our souls a motivator for loving one another? Are there examples/parables from Scripture that teach this idea?
4. Read 1 Peter 1:23 and Ezekiel 36:25-27. What does it mean to be born again? What other texts speak of this same truth?
5. How does God's commitment to make you a new creation empower you to love one another?
6. Read 1 Peter 1:22-23. List out the indicative and imperative and discuss why the indicative comes before the imperative. (The New Testament uses indicative statements when discussing what God has done, is doing or will do. Imperative statements are used when saying what we should do.)



*Love one another earnestly*

## Discussion Questions

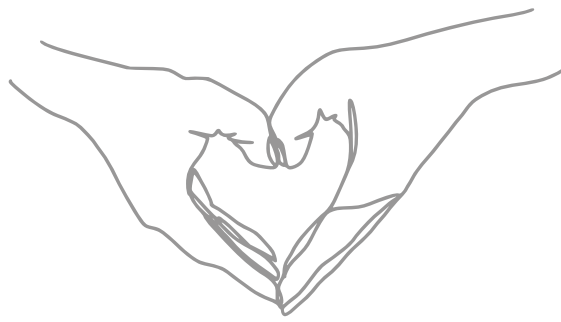
7. What were the things that might have kept the Christians in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia from fully loving one another?
8. What are the things that might keep us from fully loving one another today?
9. Read 1 Peter 1:22, 2:1. Give examples of sincere love and hypocritical love and discuss how we can “put on” sincere love and “take off” hypocritical love.
10. Read 1 Peter 1:22, 2:1. Give examples of earnest love and discuss how we can “put on” earnestness love.
11. In what ways can slander be present in the church today and how can we as a church “take off” slander?
12. Read 1 Peter 1:22, 2:1. Give examples of love that is pure and love that is evil and discuss how we can “put on” pure love and “take off” evil love (malice).
13. Read 1 Peter 2:1. Give examples of deceit among Christians today.
14. How does Peter contrast deceit and the Word of God in 1 Peter 2:2 and how is that meant to influence how we love?



*Love one another earnestly*

## Discussion Questions

15. Read 1 Peter 2:1. Give examples of envy in the church today and discuss how to “take off” envy.
16. As you think through the list of “put on” and “take off”, which do you think is the biggest struggle or the most dangerous for the church today and why?
17. Read 1 Peter 2:2. What is the comparison between infants and Christians and what does that look like practically?
18. What are one or two things you can do this week to love your community of faith deeper?



*Love one another earnestly*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

August 28

**TESTED**

**EVANGELISTIC**



**WITNESS**

**1 Peter 2:4-12**



# Evangelistic Witness

1 Peter 2: 4-12

4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

8 and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

~~~

# Evangelistic Witness

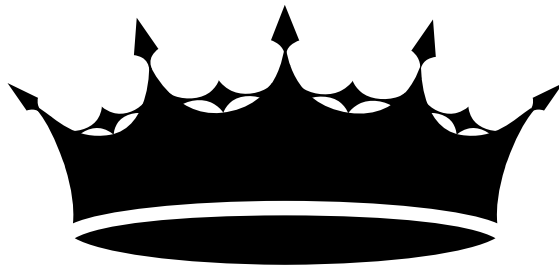
What does it really mean to be an Evangelistic Witness?

It's certainly more than just verbally sharing your faith. This week we continue in our series, looking at Peter's letter of encouragement to the dispersed believers throughout Asia Minor. We can see how Peter encourages them to make every part of their lives a witness of God.

As we go through this passage, we can be encouraged too, and see how we can use our whole lives to be an Evangelistic Witness for Him.

In Him,

Brett Warren

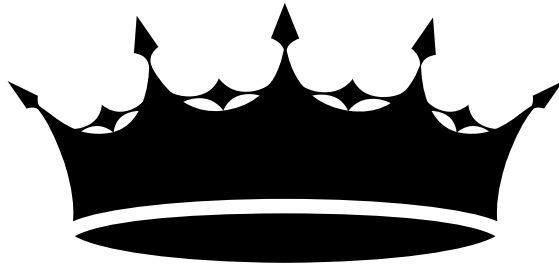


*Proclaim the excellencies*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 2:4-5. In what ways was Jesus rejected by the world and how was He able to deal with rejection?
2. Give examples of how you (or Christians in general) have been rejected by the world and how you (or they) have responded to that rejection.
3. What does it mean for us to be a Holy Priesthood and what spiritual sacrifices are we to offer to God?
4. Read 1 Peter 6-8. Give examples of some of the “cornerstones” (foundations) that the world tries to build their life upon and discuss the fleeting/deceptive nature of those things.
5. What does it mean that Jesus is our cornerstone and how can this be an evangelistic witness to the world?
6. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. What are some of the excellencies of God that you have come to most admire and why?
7. What are some things that keep Christians from proclaiming God’s excellencies to the world?

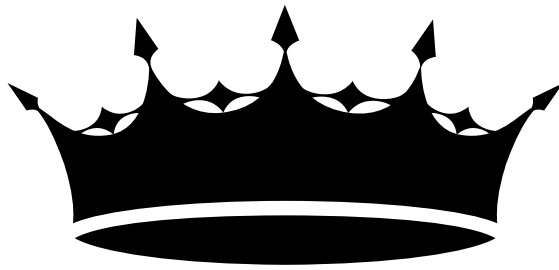




*Proclaim the excellencies*

## Discussion Questions

8. Read 1 Peter 2:10. Discuss humanity's felt need of belonging/identity and how Christianity meets that need at the deepest level (not a people, God's people).
9. Read 1 Peter 2:11, 1:1, 17. Why does Peter return to the theme of exile and what relevance does that have for us today?
10. Read 1 Peter 1:14; 2:11; 4:2, 3 noting the word "passion/lust/desire". Make a list of the worldly passions that tempt humanity.
11. How does our refusal of these passions give witness to the world?
12. Read 1 Peter 1:12. What is the day of visitation and how is that a motivator for evangelism?



*Proclaim the excellencies*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

September 4

A stylized illustration of a stormy sky with a dark, jagged cloud, rain falling, and a lightning bolt. Below the sky are teal, layered hills.

**TESTED**

**SUBMISSION**



**TO THE**



**GOVERNMENT**

**1 Peter 2:13-17**



# Submission to the Government

1 Peter 2: 13-17

13 Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, 14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

~~~



# Submission to the Government

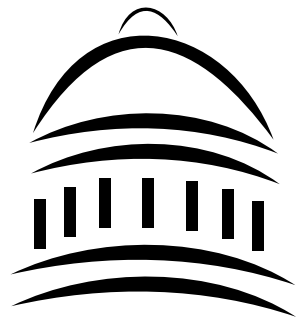
As we continue our study in 1 Peter, we begin a mini-series on submission. Over the next several weeks God will instruct us to submit to government, submit to our bosses in the workplace, wives submit to husbands, husbands love your wives, and lastly, for church members to submit to their leaders as their leaders submit to Christ.

Truth be told, we hate the word (and concept) of submission. This is not new. Adam and Eve's rebellion in the garden was a submission issue. Would they submit to the rule and reign of God or rebel and seek to break "free" from the constraints God had created for them? They chose to rebel. The broken, fallen world we live in today is a direct result of human's dislike of submission.

We hate being told what to do. We hate having authority over us. It scares us. It intimidates us. It often makes us feel weak or stupid or less than or confined in some type of indentured service. But the Biblical idea of submission is anything but these things. Peter reminds us that our ability to submit is because we are free. The Gospels remind us that there is submission in the Godhead (Son to the Father, Spirit to the Son). This in no way means the Father is superior to the Son or the Son is superior to the Spirit. But it does indicate an ordering of life. Jesus Himself, the LORD of ALL, submitted (same word as in 1 Peter) to His parents, not because he was less than or enslaved, but precisely because He knew WHO He was (the beloved Son in whom the Father was well pleased).

This week we will discuss submission to human institutions, be it national government, your school system, or your local compound. If you live in the world today, then this passage has tremendous implications for your daily life. And how you respond to this passage has tremendous implications for the Gospel.

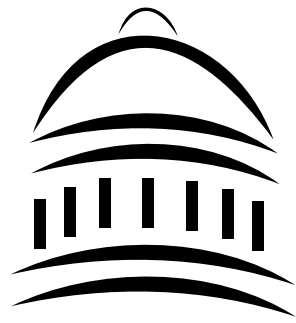
Submitting with you,  
Pastor TJ



*For the Lord's sake*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 2:13. Using a T chart make a list of what you think the word “submit” means and doesn’t mean. Can you give examples from the Bible in order to support your data?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:13. Make a list of reasons why someone might submit to human institutions and then discuss Peter’s reason for submission. What does it mean, “for the Lord’s sake.”
3. What are the things relating to human institutions you find most hard to submit to today, why and in what ways should 1 Peter 2:13 help us to overcome our struggle to submit?
4. Read 1 Peter 2:13. What are some examples from the Bible of God’s people submitting to imperfect, sinful leaders and systems (human institutions) and what should be our response today to flawed people and systems?
5. Read 1 Peter 2:13-14. Give some examples of low-level individuals sent by “the emperor” that we often find hard to submit to but Peter calls us to submit to.
6. Read 1 Peter 2:14. What are the two things listed by Peter that the government should be doing and how can our submission to the government help them fulfill their God-given purpose?

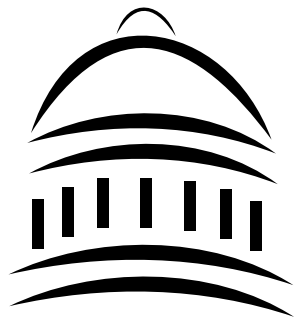


*For the Lord's sake*

## Discussion Questions

7. Read 1 Timothy 2:1, Jeremiah 29:7. Make a list of leaders you can pray for and specific things you can be praying about. Use this as a prayer guide this coming week.
8. Read 1 Peter 2:17. Give some examples of how people can place too much trust or hope in the government, a leader, a law, or a particular system or party and then discuss how this verse warns against such an attitude.
9. Read 1 Peter 2:16-17 noting Peter's usage of servant and fear (see also Acts 5:28-29, 1 Peter 2:13, Romans 13). Do you think that Peter expects us to submit to EVERY law of the land? Why or why not?
10. Give some examples of laws that as Christians we would be required to practice civil disobedience
11. How can we still honor those whom we must disobey for the Lord's sake? Can you give any examples from your own life or the life of others?
12. Take some time to pray for the leaders in your life and ask the Lord to help you submit that His glory might be made manifest through your obedience.





*For the Lord's sake*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

September 11

A stylized illustration of a stormy landscape. A large, dark, jagged cloud hangs in the sky, with white rain falling from it. A bright yellow lightning bolt strikes down from the cloud. Below the cloud, a dark blue mountain peak rises. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills. A city skyline with several tall buildings is visible in the background, partially obscured by the hills and the word "TESTED".

TESTED

**SUBMISSION  
IN THE  
WORKPLACE**

**1 Peter 2:18-25**



# Submission in the Workplace

1 Peter 2: 18- 25

18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. 19 For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. 21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

~~~

# Submission in the Workplace

Last week we began a four-week mini-series on submission. We began by looking at submission to government. This week we turn our attention to the workplace. If you look at your life this past week then you will most likely discover that you have spent more time at work than ANY other activity (other than sleeping). Your work wields tremendous power to influence. This is why Peter adds the workplace into this discussion on submission.

How we act around our coworkers, how we respond to our bosses, how we treat our clients, and our very attitude toward work itself are all opportunities to let our light so shine before men so that they may see our good works and give GLORY to God. Or as Peter says, which is really in introduction to this whole section on submission, "Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

May we see our work as much more than making ends meet, but as an opportunity to live as God's ambassadors to a world in need of His grace.

Laboring in love with you,

Pastor TJ





*For to this you have been called*

## Discussion Questions

1. Share with the group your current profession and what you believe God's purpose is for giving you this job.
2. What are the various types of vocation that God participates in through creation and how does that give meaning to all types of work?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:18-25. What group of people is Peter addressing and what modern equivalents do we have today in our own society?
4. Read 1 Peter 2:18a. Make a list of things that are both easy and difficult to submit to in the workplace and then discuss how we as Christians can respond to those difficult situations in a way that glorifies God.
5. The sermon gives a list of people whose motivating factor for their hard work was God. Who would you add to the list and how does their example challenge your work ethic?
6. Read 1 Peter 2:18b. What does it look like practically to give respect to your superiors?
7. What are some ways we as Christians can influence our work environment with our attitude? Think specifically about what is needed in your own work situation.



*For to this you have been called*

## Discussion Questions

8. Read 1 Peter 3:18c. What are some things Christians bosses can do to ensure that they are good and gentle rather than unjust?
9. What are some injustices you have experienced in the workplace and how does Christ empower you to respond in ways that are vastly different from your non-Christian coworkers?
10. Read 1 Corinthians 7:21. How do we know when to stay in a difficult workplace and when to leave a difficult workplace?
11. Read 1 Peter 2:19-20; 5:10. What role does grace play in your work?
12. Read 1 Peter 2:21; 1 Corinthians 7:17. In what way is your vocation your calling, and how can you walk fully in that calling?
13. Read 1 Peter 2:21-23. How is Jesus' suffering meant to help us work faithfully in the midst of suffering?
14. Read 1 Peter 2:24. As we think about our own work ethic, what are some sins we need to die to and righteousness we need to be living?



*For to this you have been called*

## Discussion Questions

15. Read 1 Peter 2:25. What are some ways our work might destroy or damage our “soul” (walk with God)?
16. How has Jesus been a shepherd or overseer in your workplace?
17. Take some time to pray for one another and their influence in the workplace.



*For to this you have been called*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

September 18

TESTED

SUBMISSION

IN THE

H  M E

1 Peter 3:1-7



# Submission in the Home

1 Peter 3: 1- 7

1 Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they see your respectful and pure conduct. 3 Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— 4 but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. 5 For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

~~~

# Submission in the Home

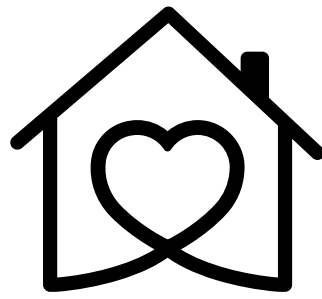
This week as we continue our mini-series on submission, we turn to what that looks like in marriage. This is not a passage on how to have a great marriage; it's a passage that reminds us that our marriage is more than our happiness. Marriage, and our role as husband or wife, is a means used by God to bring people to Himself. In that light, every one of us who are married can say, our marriage matters. How I treat my husband matters. How I treat my wife matters. Like, it matters A LOT! Peter begins this section by reminding us HOW MUCH it matters.

"Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

Marriage itself is an opportunity to be a witness to a watching world. May we each, by God's grace, keep our conduct as a husband or wife honorable among the gentiles so that they may see our deeds as a husband or wife and glorify God at His second coming.

In Him,

Pastor TJ



*Grace of Life*

## Discussion Questions

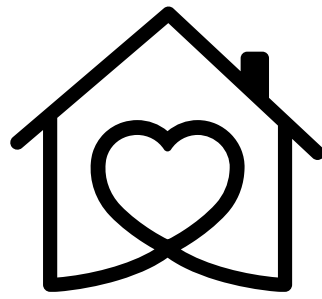
### *Ice Breaker*

As a teen, what was the hardest part about living under the authority of your parents? Was there anything helpful about living under their authority?

1. Read 1 Peter 2:12. Can you share with the group a time when a husband or wife's conduct toward their spouse caused you to notice and give glory to God?
2. Read 1 Peter 3:1. The sermon mentions six things that submission is not. List them out and discuss which are the most important for you and why.
3. From the Bible, not just 1 Peter 3:1-7, is there anything you would add to the list of things that submission in marriage is not?
4. From the above list, give some positive examples of godly women fulfilling those roles. (For example, when a wife used her intelligence to help the family or when a wife refused to submit to some ungodly request, etc.)
5. Read the last three paragraphs of CS Lewis' *Mere Christianity Book 3 Chapter 16* concerning submission/headship. What is Lewis' understanding of submission, and do you think it's a Biblical understanding of submission? Why or why not?

[https://www.novelforfree.com/mere-christianity\\_chapter\\_chapter-16\\_2836\\_230.html](https://www.novelforfree.com/mere-christianity_chapter_chapter-16_2836_230.html)





*Grace of life*

## Discussion Questions

6. Read 1 Peter 3:1-2, 5-6. What does respect in marriage look like and why does God call for the wife to display this toward her husband?
7. What does pure conduct in marriage look like and why does God call for the wife to display this toward her husband?
8. Read 1 Peter 3:3-4. From the text, what are the two very different adornings that a wife can devote her time and energy to? Which is more important and why?
9. Give examples of a gentle spirit and discuss what it does and does not look like in a marriage.
10. Give examples of a quiet spirit and discuss what it does and does not look like in a marriage.
11. Read 1 Peter 3:7. What are some ways that husbands can be absent “not live with” from the home?
12. How can husbands grow in their ability to live in “an understanding way”?



*Grace of Life*

## Discussion Questions

13. What are some ways that a wife feels honor and a husband can show honor?
14. What does it mean that the woman is the “weaker vessel”?
15. What are some disadvantages women experience in today’s culture and how can husbands (and godly men in general) help?
16. Why do you think God refuses to answer the prayers of a husband who isn’t living according to knowledge and honoring his wife?



*Grace of life*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

September 25

**TESTED**

**SUBMISSION**

**IN THE**

**CHURCH**

**1 Peter 5:1-7**



# Submission in the Church

1 Peter 5: 1- 7

1 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. 5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

~~~

# Submission in the Church

Over the past three weeks we have looked at submission in the world as a witness to the world. We began by looking at submitting as citizens. We then turned our attention to submitting in the workplace. Last week we looked at submitting in the home.

This week we jump forward to 1 Peter 5 in order to look at submission in the family of God. Peter, a fellow elder, reminds church elders to serve the church with selfless joy. Then he turns his attention to church members to remind them that God has placed elders in your life in order to care for your soul, therefore be subject to elders as they shepherd the flock of God, being keenly aware that soon the chief Shepherd will appear in which we who are in Christ will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Longing for His return,

Pastor TJ



## Discussion Questions

1. What is a Biblical understanding of submission?

<https://www.billmounce.com/greek-dictionary/hypotasso>

2. Why do you think submission is used in a negative connotation in our modern culture?

3. Discuss what submission means to you as you live for Christ?

4. Read Ephesians 5:15-21, 1Peter 3:8-9; 5:5b. What does submission toward one another look like?

5. Read 1 Peter 5:1-3. How should leaders live their lives among God's people? Do you consider yourself a leader? Why or why not?

6. Read Mark 10:42-45. Give some examples of how Jesus served people? Why did He compare the leadership of the Gentiles with those who follow Him?

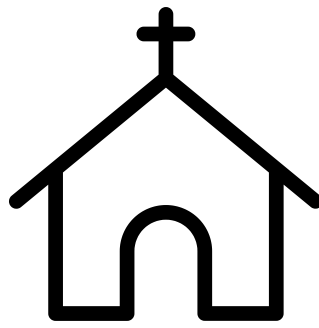
7. How does submission toward one another keep the peace among God's people?



## Discussion Questions

8. Read 1 Peter 5:4. Why do you think Peter speaks of Jesus as the “chief” shepherd? How does this encourage/warn elders and members?
9. Read 1 Peter 5:5. In what ways are members to submit to church leaders and why? Notice the word “likewise”. Where else is this word used in 1 Peter and why is that important?
10. Read Galatians 5:13. Does submission mean we must agree? How do we disagree and remain submissive toward one another?
11. How is being submissive a weapon in Spiritual Warfare? Give some examples.





*Shepherd the flock*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

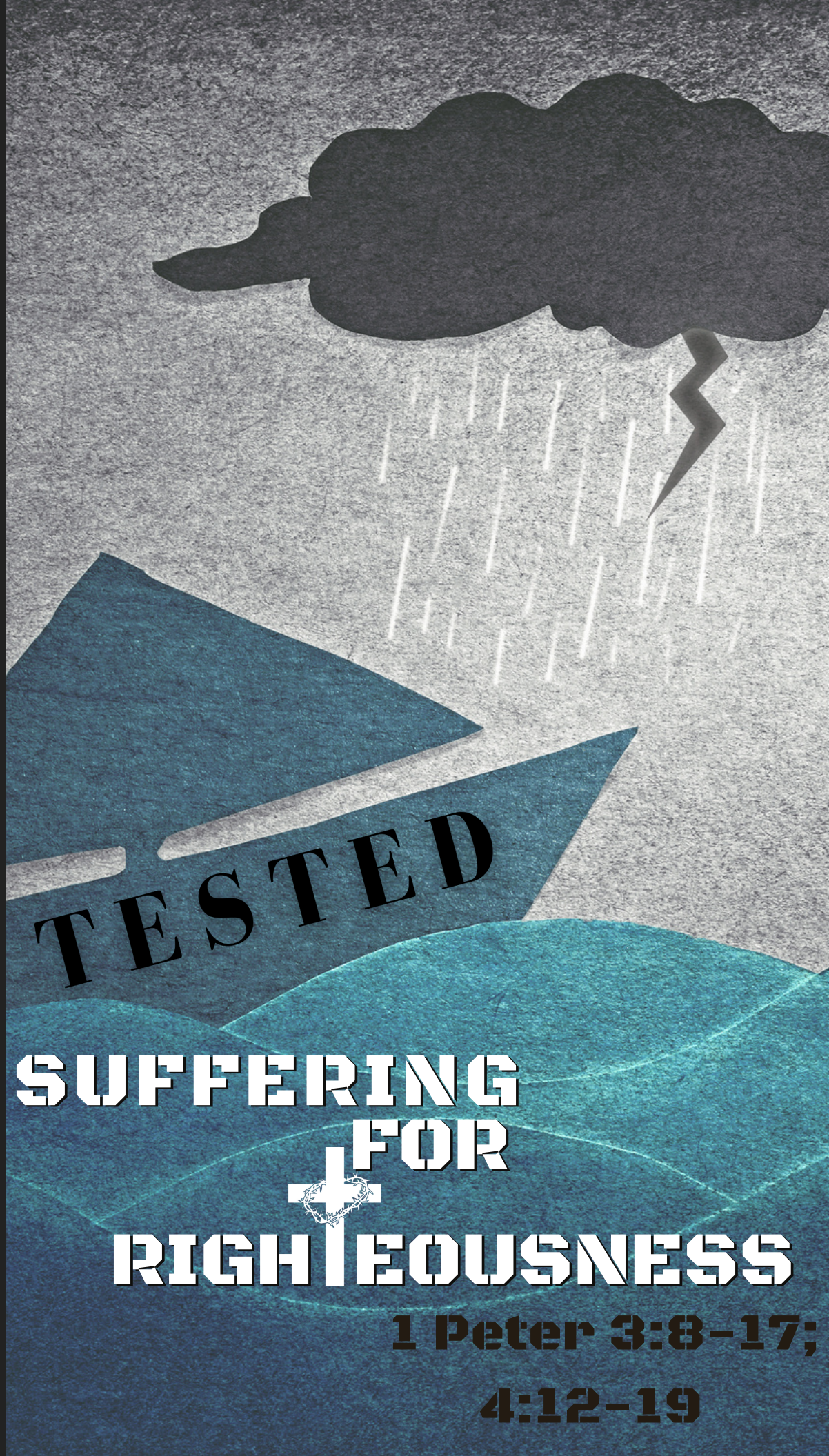
### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

October 2



## TESTED SUFFERING + FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

**1 Peter 3:8-17;**

**4:12-19**



# Suffering for Righteousness

1 Peter 3: 8-17

3:8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 10 For

“Whoever desires to love life  
and see good days,  
let him keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit;  
11 let him turn away from evil and do good;  
let him seek peace and pursue it.  
12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are open to their prayer.  
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, 15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, 16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

# Suffering for Righteousness

1 Peter 4: 12-19

4: 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And

"If the righteous is scarcely saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

~~~



# Suffering for Righteousness

Let's play a game. How many oxymorons can you think of? No, I'm not asking you to list stupid people (moron). I'm asking you to think of opposite words that are often placed together; paradoxical phrases or words that contradict themselves.

For example: bittersweet, civil war (as if there's anything civil about war), virtual reality (although my son might argue that the virtual is reality), John Legend's 'perfect imperfections', and jumbo shrimp. Well, how did you do? Did you come up with any seriously funny (see what I did there) oxymorons?

This Sunday we are looking at an oxymoron that is scattered all throughout Scripture: Joyful Suffering. When you think of suffering you probably don't think of joy. But it is undeniable; the Bible over and over again places these words together. Confused? Left wondering what could possibly be joyful about suffering? Join us this Sunday as we study 1 Peter 3:8-17 & 1 Peter 4:12-19.

Suffering joyfully with you,

Pastor TJ



*Suffer for righteousness' sake*

## Discussion Questions

1. List, define and briefly discuss (giving examples of each) the three types of suffering mentioned in the sermon.
2. Read 1 Peter 3:14 & 1 Peter 4:14. What other places does the Bible link suffering and joy/happiness/blessing and why do you think God deems it important to connect the two?
3. Read 1 Peter 4:12, 1:7, James 1:2-3. What is the difference between testing and tempting?
4. Have you personally experienced suffering that refined your faith? If so, please share with the group.
5. Read 1 Peter 4:13, 1 Corinthians 10:16, Philippians 3:10. The sermon stated, "Shared experiences create deep bonds of friendship." Have you personally experienced this to be true? If so, share with the group.
6. Discuss how Jesus' suffering purchased for us fellowship with God.
7. How does our suffering deepen our relationship with Jesus?
8. Read 1 Peter 3:10-12, 4:14. Give examples (inside and outside the Bible) when suffering brought about a greater awareness of God's glory or an empowering of the Holy Spirit.



*Suffer for righteousness' sake*

## Discussion Questions

9. What do you think results from God's glory and Spirit resting on Christians who suffer?
10. Read 1 Peter 2:12, 3:15, 4:16. Has your suffering ever given you an opportunity to be a witness? If so, share with the group.
11. Read 1 Peter 3:15. Why do you think Peter reminds us to defend the faith with gentleness and respect?
12. How can we be better prepared to take advantage of the opportunities suffering gives us to be a witness?
13. Read 1 Peter 4:17-18. Why does Peter remind us of the outcome of those who reject Jesus and how can we as people of God foster greater sorrow of people's eternal state?
14. Read 1 Peter 4:19. Discuss how Jesus perfectly modeled this for us (Luke 23:46).
15. How does a proper understanding of God's will, God's faithfulness, and God's creator nature help us endure suffering?



*Suffer for righteousness' sake*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

October 9

A stylized illustration of a stormy sea. A dark, jagged cloud hangs over a blue sea with white rain falling. A white cross is visible on the horizon. A dark blue ship is partially visible in the background.

**TESTED**

**THE SUFFERING  
OF CHRIST, AND  
SALVATION OF SOULS  
1 Peter 3:18-22**



# The Suffering of Christ and Salvation of Souls

1 Peter 3: 18-22

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

~~~

# The Suffering of Christ and Salvation of Souls

J.C. Ryle once wrote, "Beware of a religion in which little is said of the cross...hundreds of places of worship exist today in which there is almost everything except the cross." It's an unfortunate truth that churches can gather to pray, sing, preach, and encourage one another and yet have not meditated or mentioned or gloried in the cross at all.

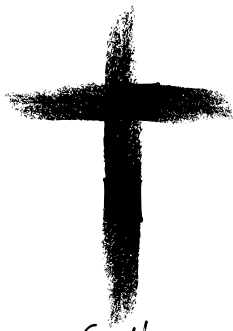
It's unfortunate because without the cross there is no peace with God and man. Without the cross there is no forgiveness of sin. Without the cross there is no bridge to unite heaven and earth. Without the cross there is no guarantee that all things work together for good. Without the cross death still has its sting. Without the cross hell is still our eternal home. Without the cross Satan still has a stronghold over us. Without the cross demonic forces still keep us in dungeons of despair. Without the cross every soul that has ever lived is doomed to march into a Christless eternity, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might.

No wonder Paul boasted **ONLY** in the cross! No wonder Peter commands us to rejoice insofar as we share Christ's sufferings. This coming Sunday we will focus almost exclusively on two verses:

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison.

In so doing we will glory and boast in the cross as we rejoice in Christ's victory over evil; a victory that believers will share in since we eternally belong to Jesus.

In Him,  
Pastor TJ



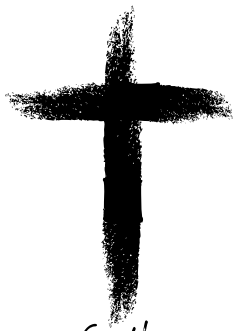
*The righteous for the unrighteous*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 3:18, Luke 17:25, Isaiah 53:3. List out the different types of suffering Jesus experienced on earth.
2. Read 1 Peter 2:24, Isaiah 53:4-5, 11, 12; 2 Corinthians 5:21. What was the suffering for sin that Jesus experienced on the cross and why would He go through that suffering willingly?
3. Read 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 7:27; 9:12, 26. Why does the Bible place so much emphasis on Jesus dying 'once'?
4. What are some ways that people try to add to (or deny) the completed work of Jesus on the cross?
5. Read 1 Peter 3:18, 1:18-19. Why is it important that Jesus was righteous/never sinned?
6. Why does Peter emphasize that Jesus died for the unrighteous? Would you include yourself in that list? Why/Why not?
7. In what ways is double imputation important/applicable to our day to day living?

See: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-doctrine-of-imputation/>

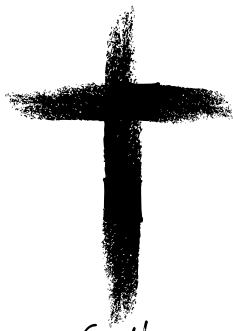




*The righteous for the unrighteous*

## Discussion Questions

8. What are some common wrong/incomplete ways that people complete this verse? For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might\_\_\_\_\_.
9. What does it mean present and future that Jesus has brought us to God?
10. Read 1 Peter 3:18b-19, 22. What is Christus Victor, why is it important, and what does it look like to live under that truth daily?  
See: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/christus-victor/>
11. Read 1 Peter 3:19-20. How does God demonstrate His patience in both the Old and New Testament and in these last days?
12. Will God's patience toward sinners last forever?
13. What hope and comfort would it have given Peter's original readers to be reminded that Noah and his family were a minority during their life?
14. What does the flood story teach us about judgment and salvation by grace through faith?

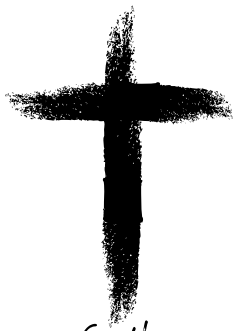


*The righteous for the unrighteous*

## Going Deeper

### Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 3:18. Is made alive in the Spirit referring to Jesus' spirit before resurrection or the Holy Spirit's role in Jesus' resurrection or something else? Defend your answer.
2. Read 1 Peter 3:19. Who are the spirits that Jesus preached to? Defend your answer.
3. What message did Jesus proclaim to these spirits? Defend your answer.
4. Read 1 Peter 3:21. In what ways does baptism correspond to the flood?
5. Does this passage teach that baptism saves us? If not, what IS it teaching?



*The righteous for the unrighteous*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

October 16

TESTED

ST  P  
SINNING

1 Peter 4:1-11



# Stop Sinning

1 Peter 4: 1-11

1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. 3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. 4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; 5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

7 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

~~~

# Stop Sinning

Last week we looked at the marvelous work of Jesus on the Cross. Through His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension we who were far off from God have been brought near to God. For Christ died ONCE for SINS, the RIGHTEOUS for the unrighteous that we might be BROUGHT to God. These words compel us to repent and believe. Or if we have already repented and believed, to keep on believing. To glory in the cross of our risen Savior who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

This week Peter reminds us of the demands placed on those who have come to the cross. The free gift of salvation compels us to come and die to our old way of life of sin and live to a new way of life of obedience. In short, Jesus' victory on the cross demands our allegiance and obedience to Him alone.

There is a great fear that if we emphasize obedience we venture into the realm of legalism. It is a valid fear. But it is impossible for the Christian to avoid the topic of obedience. In fact, it's so important that Peter opens his epistle with the word,

"To those who are elect exiles...according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for OBEDIENCE to Jesus Christ."

Jesus both deserves and demands our obedience. As Peter writes in this week's text, "(let us) live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God." Therefore, this week we will look at the second half of the cross...saved FOR OBEDIENCE.

Trusting and obeying with you,

Pastor TJ



*Died once for sins*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 4:2. Draw a T-bar placing “human passions” on the left and “Will of God” on the right. Then fill in the chart with examples of both. Which list is more representative of your life and why?
2. Read 1 Peter 4:1, 1:13, 2:11, 5:8-9, 12 (see also Ephesians 6:10-20), noting the battle language used. What are some ways we as Christians can practically “Arm ourselves” for the battle against sin? (use the list above for reference)
3. Read 1 Peter 4:1, 1:13, 4:7, 5:8, Romans 7:25, 13:14 noting the connecting with the mind/thinking. What was Jesus’ thinking that kept him from sinning and how do we cultivate the same type of thinking?
4. What would you say are the greatest negative influences in your thinking that stunts sanctification? (for example, friendships, social media, television, music, etc. either move us toward the things of God or things of man)
5. Read 1 Peter 4:3-4. Have you ever experienced social pressure (surprised when you do not join them) to sin? Share with the group the occasion, your feelings, how you responded, and if you learned anything from the experience.
6. Have you ever been tempted to sin in order to avoid suffering (they malign you)? (Sins of omission or commission). Share with the group the occasion, your feelings, how you responded, and if you learned anything from the experience.



*Died once for sins*

## Discussion Questions

7. Read 1 Peter 4:5-6, 1 Cor. 3:10-15, Rev. 20:12. What does the Bible teach about the Judgment Seat of Christ that Christians will face and in what ways should this motivate us toward obedience?
8. Read 1 Peter 4:7. What is the “end of all things,” and why should it motivate us to be self-controlled and sober-minded? What are some practical ways we can use this as a daily motivation for holiness?
9. Read 1 Peter 4:8-10 noting the phrase “one another”. What is the role of the church (community) in an individual’s personal sanctification? What other verses speak to this truth?
10. What are the three commands given in this text and how does each one help fight against sin?
11. Take each of the three commands given in 1 Peter 4:8-10 and list out practical ways you can practice these in the coming week.
12. Read James 5:16, Galatians 6:1-2. Why do you think God calls us to hold one another accountable and confess our sins to each other?
13. Action: If there is any besetting sin in your life that you are struggling with, confess that sin to a small group of trusted individuals and ask for prayer and accountability.





*Died once for sins*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports





# STUDY GUIDE

October 23

**TESTED**

**STAND FIRM  
AND  
RESIST THE  
DEVIL**

**1 Peter 5:8-14**



# Stand Firm and Resist the Devil

1 Peter 5: 8-14

8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. 10 And 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. 11 To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

## Final Greetings

12 By 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. 13 She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. 14 Greet one another with the kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

~~~

# Stand Firm and Resist the Devil

What does it mean to stand firm in our faith and resist the devil?

This week we continue in our series in 1 Peter and will be looking at the importance of being aware of the devil's devices. We'll be exploring what it means to stand in faith when he is looking to deceive us. Peter not only stresses the importance of this topic but gives us insight on how to deal with these situations.

So, get ready to learn how to resist the devil and stand in faith when he attacks.

In Him,  
Brett Warren





*Restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:6&8; 2 Timothy 4:5; 1 Peter 1:13, 4:7, 5:8. What is the opposite of sober-minded and watchful and how can we daily avoid this?
2. Read 1 Peter 5:8, John 8:44, Ephesians 6:11, James 4:7, Jude 1:9. Who is the Devil, why is he our adversary, and what danger does he pose to Christians today?
3. “Devil” literally means false accuser or slanderer. Give examples from the Bible when Satan slandered or accused? (Garden of Eden, Job, temptation in the wilderness, etc.)
4. In what ways does Satan come and accuse or slander today?
5. Read 1 Peter 5:9, Ephesians 6:13, James 4:7 (see also 1 Peter 5:12). Give examples from the Bible when God’s people resisted Satan and then discuss what that looks like for us today.
6. Read 1 Peter 5:10. Why do you think Peter, at this particular point in the text, calls God the “God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ”? How does this help us in our fight against Satan?



*Restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish*

## Discussion Questions

7. Read 1 Peter 5:10, noticing the phrases “Himself,” and “In Christ” (see also 1 Peter 5:14). How do we understand commands to both resist Satan and wait for God to fight on our behalf?
8. Read 1 Peter 5:13. Why does Peter mention “she who is at Babylon” and “Mark”? In what ways are they examples of fellow Christians who have suffered and resisted Satan?
9. Share with the group a personal experience of battling Satan/spiritual forces of evil.



*Restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports