

GET HOPE
GIVE HOPE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF **1 PETER**

GET HOPE **GIVE HOPE**

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF **1 PETER**



Johnston Heights
CHURCH

VISION

MAKING JESUS KNOWN IN EVERY COMMUNITY WHERE GOD PLACES US

MISSION

TOGETHER, BECOMING INFLUENTIAL FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JOHNSTON HEIGHTS CHURCH, PLEASE VISIT:

HOPETOYOU.COM

OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

604-589-3733

NAME: _____

CONTENTS

About This Study	Page 4
Get Hope, Give Hope 8-Week Challenge	Page 5
English Standard Version (ESV) Description and Permission	Page 6
New Living Translation (NLT) Description and Permission	Page 7
1 Peter, alternating ESV (white background) and NLT (grey background)	Page 8
Week 1 - A Living Hope	Page 26
Week 2 - Set Apart	Page 32
Week 3 - Out of Darkness, Into Light	Page 38
Week 4 - Submission	Page 44
Week 5 - Walk the Walk, Talk the Talk	Page 50
Week 6 - Love in Action	Page 56
Week 7 - Under Fire	Page 62
Week 8 - In this Together	Page 68

ABOUT THIS STUDY

It goes without saying that our world needs hope today. As you commit the next eight weeks to the study of 1 Peter, I'm confident that you'll get hope. Peter, one of the inner-circle-disciples of Jesus is sometimes called the "Apostle of Hope". He gained this title because he, above all others, was familiar with disappointment in himself (he denied knowing Jesus three times prior to Jesus' crucifixion) and with forgiveness (he was forgiven and reinstated by Jesus after Jesus' resurrection). It may be little surprise that the letter he wrote to the first century Christians scattered by persecution, is peppered with words of encouragement. Peter repetitively calls Christians to focus on Jesus who himself suffered greatly but who also rose from the grave. Because of this historic event, believers in the risen Jesus have a "living hope". Peter says,

"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..." (1 Peter 1:3)

As you look through this study guide, you'll notice eight weeks worth of content. Each week begins with a page for you to take notes on the sermon related to that week's passage. In the study section that follows, you'll see instructions to read through all of 1 Peter in the English Standard Version (ESV) each week and to highlight or underline specific words. To do this, a copy of 1 Peter in the ESV has been provided in this workbook. You'll also notice that the New Living Translation (NLT) is included side by side the ESV for comparison. Please read the description provided for each of these translations to get an idea of how they differ. Each week also includes a section called "Going Deeper" for further reflection and a blank page to record prayer requests or to write out your prayers. Finally, there's a table near the front of this workbook called, "Get Hope, Give Hope 8-Week Challenge". Instructions are provided in the "Week-1 Study" content on how to utilize this table.

To access the sermon for each week's content, you can visit hopetoyou.com where it will be posted every Saturday night and remain available throughout the week. You can also view it with others on Facebook every Sunday morning at 9:00 am at [facebook.com/JohnstonHeightsChurch](https://www.facebook.com/JohnstonHeightsChurch).

Belonging to a group of believers to go through the content is not required but will help you and others get the most out of this study and is highly recommended. Currently, groups are meeting in online formats only but this may change with the ongoing pandemic. If you would like to join a group, please contact Phil Harris at phil@hopetoyou.com and he can help you get connected.

Thank you for taking up the challenge to Get Hope and Give Hope in 2021!

Jon Thiessen

GET HOPE GIVE HOPE

8-WEEK CHALLENGE

GET HOPE	GIVE HOPE
<input type="checkbox"/> Commit to meeting regularly with a group of believers to study God's word and pray together	<input type="checkbox"/> Commit to meeting regularly with a group of believers to encourage them
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete this study guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Pray once a day for a friend who doesn't know Jesus yet
<input type="checkbox"/> Read 1 Peter once a week for the duration of this study	<input type="checkbox"/> Invite someone to come to Alpha, happening after Easter
<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in Lent (February 17-April 3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the Alpha leader's training, happening on February 2nd
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the Zoom prayer gathering on the first Monday of each month to take communion with others	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact the church to share your testimony over video
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend several Zoom prayer gatherings each month	<input type="checkbox"/> Take the Search For Jesus volunteer training at searchforjesus.net
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorize a chapter of the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Make _____ (number) phone calls each week to someone who may be feeling isolated
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact the church about getting baptized	<input type="checkbox"/> Get baptized
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____

ESV

“The English Standard Version (ESV) is an essentially literal translation of the Bible in contemporary English. Created by a team of more than 100 leading evangelical scholars and pastors, the ESV Bible emphasizes word-for-word accuracy, literary excellence, and depth of meaning”
www.ESV.org

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

NLT

“The New Living Translation combines the latest biblical scholarship with a clear, dynamic writing style that communicates God’s Word powerfully to all who hear and read it. It renders the message of the original texts of Scripture into clear, contemporary English that was written to be read aloud. With a focus on clarity, The New Living Translation invites readers to go deeper into the biblical text to discover God’s story for their lives and the world.”

www.tyndale.com/nlt/

Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Week 1

1 Peter 1:1-12 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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^[a] 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.

1 Peter 1:1-12 NLT

1 This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. **2** God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

May God give you more and more grace and peace.

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, **4** and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. **5** And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. **7** These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

8 You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. **9** The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

10 This salvation was something even the prophets wanted to know more about when they prophesied about this gracious salvation prepared for you. **11** They wondered what time or situation the Spirit of Christ within them was talking about when he told them in advance about Christ's suffering and his great glory afterward.

12 They were told that their messages were not for themselves, but for you. And now this Good News has been announced to you by those who preached in the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. It is all so wonderful that even the angels are eagerly watching these things happen.

Week 2

1 Peter 1:13-2:3 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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.

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 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.

1 Peter 1:13-2:3 NLT

13 So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.

14 So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. **15** But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. **16** For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

17 And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents." **18** For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. **19** It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. **20** God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

21 Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.

22 You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

23 For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God. **24** As the Scriptures say,

"People are like grass;
their beauty is like a flower in the field.

The grass withers and the flower fades.

25 But the word of the Lord remains forever."

And that word is the Good News that was preached to you.

2 So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. **2** Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, **3** now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

Week 3

1 Peter 2:4-11 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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.

1 Peter 2:4-11 NLT

4 You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

5 And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. **6** As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem,
chosen for great honor,
and anyone who trusts in him
will never be disgraced."

7 Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has now become the cornerstone."

8 And,

"He is the stone that makes people stumble,
the rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

10 "Once you had no identity as a people;
now you are God's people.
Once you received no mercy;
now you have received God's mercy."

11 Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

Week 4

1 Peter 2:12-3:7 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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.

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.

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.

1 Peter 2:12-3:7 NLT

12 Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

13 For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority—whether the king as head of state, **14** or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right.

15 It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you. **16** For you are free, yet you are God's slaves, so don't use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. **17** Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king.

18 You who are slaves must submit to your masters with all respect. Do what they tell you—not only if they are kind and reasonable, but even if they are cruel. **19** For God is pleased when, conscious of his will, you patiently endure unjust treatment. **20** Of course, you get no credit for being patient if you are beaten for doing wrong. But if you suffer for doing good and endure it patiently, God is pleased with you.

21 For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.

22 He never sinned,
nor ever deceived anyone.

23 He did not retaliate when he was insulted,
nor threaten revenge when he suffered.

He left his case in the hands of God,
who always judges fairly.

24 He personally carried our sins
in his body on the cross
so that we can be dead to sin
and live for what is right.

By his wounds
you are healed.

25 Once you were like sheep
who wandered away.

But now you have turned to your Shepherd,
the Guardian of your souls.

3 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^[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

3 In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over **2** by observing your pure and reverent lives.

3 Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. **4** You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. **5** This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They put their trust in God and accepted the authority of their husbands. **6** For instance, Sarah obeyed her husband, Abraham, and called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do.

7 In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.

Week 5

1 Peter 3:8-22 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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.

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.

1 Peter 3:8-22 NLT

8 Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. **9** Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing. **10** For the Scriptures say,

"If you want to enjoy life
and see many happy days,
keep your tongue from speaking evil
and your lips from telling lies.

11 Turn away from evil and do good.

Search for peace, and work to maintain it.

12 The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right,
and his ears are open to their prayers.

But the Lord turns his face
against those who do evil."

13 Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? **14** But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. **15** Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. **16** But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. **17** Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!

18 Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

19 So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— **20** those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood. **21** And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

22 Now Christ has gone to heaven. He is seated in the place of honor next to God, and all the angels and authorities and powers accept his authority.

Week 6

1 Peter 4:1-11 ESV

Your Heading: _____

4 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.

1 Peter 4:1-11 NLT

4 So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin. **2** You won't spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God. **3** You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols.

4 Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild and destructive things they do. So they slander you. **5** But remember that they will have to face God, who stands ready to judge everyone, both the living and the dead. **6** That is why the Good News was preached to those who are now dead—so although they were destined to die like all people, they now live forever with God in the Spirit.

7 The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers. **8** Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay.

10 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. **11** Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

Week 7

1 Peter 4:12-19 ESV

Your Heading: _____

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^[b] 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.

1 Peter 4:12-19 NLT

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. **13** Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

14 If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God[e] rests upon you. **15** If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs. **16** But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! **17** For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News? **18** And also,

“If the righteous are barely saved,
what will happen to godless sinners?”

19 So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

Week 8

1 Peter 5:1-14 ESV

Your Heading: _____

5 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. **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.

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.

1 Peter 5:1-14 NLT

5 And now, a word to you who are elders in the churches. I, too, am an elder and a witness to the sufferings of Christ. And I, too, will share in his glory when he is revealed to the whole world. As a fellow elder, I appeal to you: **2** Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. **3** Don't lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example. **4** And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor.

5 In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for

“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

6 So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. **7** Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.

8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. **9** Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.

10 In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. **11** All power to him forever! Amen.

12 I have written and sent this short letter to you with the help of Silas,^[c] whom I commend to you as a faithful brother. My purpose in writing is to encourage you and assure you that what you are experiencing is truly part of God's grace for you. Stand firm in this grace.

13 Your sister church here in Babylon^[d] sends you greetings, and so does my son Mark. **14** Greet each other with a kiss of love.

Peace be with all of you who are in Christ.

WEEK 1

A LIVING HOPE

1 Peter 1:1-12

Sermon Notes

Week 1 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter in the ESV and:

- Choose a colour and underline or highlight every time you see the word, “Exile,” “Foreigner,” or “Sojourner”.
- Choose a new colour and underline or highlight every time you see the word “hope”.

Look specifically at 1 Peter 1:1-12 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

In this initial section of 1 Peter we learn a lot of things about God. Using words directly from text, list some examples of what God is like or what God does.

In 1 Peter 1:1-12, what words are used to describe the recipients of this letter?

In 1 Peter 1:4 ESV, what words are used to describe the inheritance of believers? Look up the definition for each of those words in an English dictionary. How would these descriptions have been an encouragement for the original audience.

The biblical understanding of the word hope differs from the modern understanding. Look up “biblical understanding of the word hope” in your search engine. What do you find? How is this different than a modern understanding of that same word? How does the fact that this hope is described as “a living hope” further add to its meaning?

According to 1 Peter 1:6-9, what role do trials play in the life of believers?

Read 1 Peter 1:1-12 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

Read through the “Get Hope, Give Hope Challenge” on page 5. Prayerfully consider which of these challenges you feel led commit to for the duration of this study. If you have a friend or a group you meet with, discuss this with them; try to be specific on the details of how and when the items on the checklist will be done, and commit to following up with each other throughout the next 8 weeks. Write down an accountability action plan below (when and how will you follow up with each other).

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 2

SET APART

1 Peter 1:13-2:3

Sermon Notes

Week 2 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour highlight or underlined the word, "holy"

Look specifically at 1 Peter 1:13-2:3 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

Peter includes both indicatives (statements that indicate who a believer is or what has been done to them/for them) and imperatives (commands). There are two important indicatives in this section (1 Peter 1:18-19 and 1 Peter 1:23). Write them below in your own words.

What imperatives (commands) do you find in this section? There are lots! Record at least five of them below.

Why does Peter include these indicatives among the imperatives? Why not just give the imperatives by themselves?

In 1 Peter 1:17, God is referenced as both Father and Judge. What words come to mind when you think of both "Father" and "Judge"? Write them down in the space provided below.

Father:

Judge:

In 1 Peter 1:15-16, the imperative is to "be holy because I [God] am holy." Based on your knowledge of Scripture as a whole, what does this mean?

Considering this section's focus on personal holiness, why are the relational references included (1 Peter 1:22, 2:1)?

Read 1 Peter 1:13-2:3 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going so far?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 3

OUT OF DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

1 Peter 2:4-11

Sermon Notes

Week 3 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour highlight or circle the word, “you” and if it applies, underline any words associated with the word “you”. e.g. 1 Peter 1:23 “since you have been born again...”

Look specifically at 1 Peter 2:4-11 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

There was a lot of division between Jews and Gentiles at the time 1 Peter was written, can you think of why some of those divisions may have existed? List a few of your thoughts below.

Read Exodus 19:5-6 then read 1 Peter 2:9-10. What words are similar between the two passages? Write them down.

It is significant that Peter uses OT language (from Exodus 19:5-6) to describe Gentile believers. Can you find any other words or sentences in this section that may have, similarly, been an encouragement to Gentile believers?

The Read 1 Peter 2:5 in several translations and rewrite this in your own words.

Look at 1 Peter 2:9 again. Notice how God's people are called out of darkness *and* called into his marvellous light. Looking at the rest of 1 Peter, what words does Peter use to describe the darkness that God's people are called out of and what words does Peter use to describe the wonderful light that God's people are called into?

Why do you think it important that God's people understand both the calling out and calling into aspects of their salvation? What might happen if someone only focused on one of these aspects?

Read 1 Peter 2:4-11 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 4

SUBMISSION

1 Peter 2:12-3:7

Sermon Notes

Week 4 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour underline or highlight the words, “subject” and “likewise”

Look specifically at 1 Peter 2:12-3:7 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

As you look through this section at the words “subject” and “likewise” that you highlighted earlier, what situations is Peter addressing?

Read 1 Peter 2:13 and 1 Peter 2:15. What are the reasons Peter calls Christians to submit to human institutions?

During this time, Christians were sometimes accused of disturbing the *Pax Romana* (Peace of Rome). Why would it have been important for Christians to be seen as peace makers not peace disturbers?

Look at 1 Peter 3:1 and 3:7 and notice what word is repeated at the beginning of each of these verses? What is “likewise” referring back to (look at 2:20b-21)?

In what ways is Peter calling the wife to be like the example of Jesus and in what ways is the husband to be like the example of Jesus?

As a group undergoing persecution, Peter seems to call first century Christians to honour everyone and essentially, to humbly accept their lot in life, and to be like Christ amidst their situation; this is difficult. What words of encouragement does he provide to give them hope? Look 2:20-25, 3:1, 3:9.

What reputation do Christians have in our community today? Is it positive or negative? How do we ensure that the values of Christianity are rightly represented?

Read 1 Peter 2:12-3:7 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 5

**WALK THE WALK
TALK THE TALK**

1 Peter 3:8-22

Sermon Notes

Week 5 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour highlight or underline in the words “good” and “righteous(ness)”
- In the ESV, with a new colour highlight or underline the words “speak(ing),” “bless(ing),” “revile(ing),” “tongue,” and “lips” (basically any word associated with speech)

Look specifically at 1 Peter 3:8-22 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

Look at 1 Peter 3:8-12. What words are used, broadly speaking, as synonyms for the word, “speak”.

What words are used to describe the speech of Christian opponents? If you don’t know the meaning of any of these words, look it up in an English dictionary.

By contrast, what words are used to describe the speech that should belong to Christians?

Look at 1 Peter 3:15. What does the text say we should always be prepared with?

Now look at 1 Peter 3:15 and 3:16 together. Re-write these two verses in your own words.

If you were to give a reason for the hope that you have, what words would you use to give your defence?

Have you ever identified a Christian by their speech? Has anyone ever identified you as a Christian because of your speech? Describe the experience.

Read 1 Peter 3:8-22 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 6

LOVE IN ACTION

1 Peter 4:1-11

Sermon Notes

Week 6 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour highlight or underline the words “love” or “loving”

Look specifically at 1 Peter 4:1-11 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

Read 1 Peter 4:7. What is “at hand”?

Before looking up any references, what do you know or think is going to happen at “the end of all things”?

Read the following six passages and take few notes on what you learn is going to happen at “the end of all things” (feel free to add more verses here):

1 Peter 4:13, 1 Peter 5:1

2 Peter 3:10

Revelation 20:7-10

Revelation 20:11-15

Revelation 21:1-8

Look at 1 Peter 4:7-11. In light of the reality that the end of all things is at hand, Peter gives several instructions to the church. Summarize in a few words Peter's instruction for each of the five verses below.

1 Peter 4:7

1 Peter 4:8

1 Peter 4:9

1 Peter 4:10

1 Peter 4:11

Read 1 Peter 4:1-11 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 7

UNDER FIRE

1 Peter 4:12-19

Sermon Notes

Week 7 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour, highlight or underline the words, "suffer(ed/ing)," "trial(s)"

Look specifically at 1 Peter 4:12-19 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

Look at 1 Peter 4:12. Peter says, don't be surprised. What are they not to be surprised about?

If Peter's instruction is, "don't be surprised," we might infer that some were surprised. Why do you think fiery trials would be surprising?

Look at 1 Peter 4:12-14. Instead of being surprised, Peter encourages the church to rejoice at the fiery trials when they come. What is the basis for rejoicing?

Peter says in verse 15, "But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler." Do you think it was possible that some in the early church thought they were suffering persecution when in actuality, they were simply facing the consequences for their own wrong actions? How would someone know if they were being persecuted?

In Peter 4:12, the word “when” is used, what does this mean?

Look at 1 Peter 1:6 and 1 Peter 5:10. What words appear in both of these verses and what do they tell you about Peter’s perspective on time (go back to 1 Peter 1:4)?

How important is it for Christians currently living in relative peace to be prepared for the possibility of persecution in the future? How prepared are you?

Read 1 Peter 4:12-19 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

WEEK 8

**IN THIS
TOGETHER**

1 Peter 5:1-14

Sermon Notes

Week 8 Study

Read through *all* of 1 Peter and:

- In the ESV, with a new colour, highlight or underline the word, "humility" or "humble"
- In the ESV, with a new colour, highlight or underline the word, "glory"

Look specifically at 1 Peter 5:1-14 and think about what heading you would give this section. In the blank space provided above that section in the ESV, write down that heading.

Look at 1 Peter 5:2-4, what is the primary role of an elder and what words describe the attitude an elder should have?

Role:

Attitude:

Peter was one of Jesus' closest disciples and observed his life and his teaching. Read Matthew 20:25-28. How does someone exercising oversight in the church differ from those who exercise oversight in the Roman culture of the time?

In 1 Peter 5:5, Peter instructs all believers to clothe themselves with humility. According to this verse, why is humility important?

Look at the next two verses (1 Peter 5:6-7). What does humility look like?

Look at 1 Peter 5:8-9. How is the devil described and what activity is he involved in?

Peter instructs believers to resist the devil. Looking at the larger section (1 Peter 5:6-9), how does someone do that?

Before his final greetings, Peter's concludes his letter with several words describing what God will himself do for his people. Write those words below and think about how meaningful these words would have been for a persecuted church.

Read 1 Peter 5:1-14 in the NLT. Are there sections of text that provide fresh insights in this translation? If you have access to other translations, consider consulting these as well.

Are there any elements that remain unclear or difficult to understand? Consider discussing these with the group of believers you are meeting with.

How is the Get Hope, Give Hope challenge going?

Going Deeper

In your study this week, what did you learn about God? Consider sticking with basic sentences (God is..., God does...) to frame your reflections.

Of the things you've learned about God this week, what stands out the most to you?

In what ways does knowing this about God personally affect the way you respond to him?

Is there any area God is asking you to be obedient to him as a way of expressing your love for him?

PRAYER

In the space provided, take some time to record prayer requests from members in your group, write them down and spend some time praying for each other. You may also want to use this space for writing out your own prayers.

Extra Notes

Extra Notes

Extra Notes