

Our world has a “new normal.” We can no longer go back to the way things were. Bible-believing Christians will be a target. Difficult times are ahead. When they come, are we ready to stand firm? Do we know God’s Word well enough to stand on the truths presented in the Bible? God’s Word is truth, but our country has taken God and His Word out of our society. When we abandon God’s truth, we are only left with lies, and Satan is the father of lies. Those who believe his lies will shun the light of God that shines in our lives. The battle is heating up, but we know who wins, and God, through His Word and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, equips us to stand in victory!

It is said that those who don’t study history are doomed to repeat it. In the time of Rome, Nero had a building plan, a pleasure palace (the Domus Aurea) designed to indulge his fleshly desires which covered 300 acres in the heart of Rome. He had one problem. Those who lived and worked there had no intention of giving up what was theirs. So what was a deranged ruler to do? Create a crisis - he could burn down the city! That would make room for his palace complex. Find someone else to blame - hey, why not the Christians - they were a problem anyway, and he could kill two birds with one stone! Turn the rest of society against them - they must have started the fire, and they are the ones who are holding society back from all the good that the rest of us deserve. Come up with a solution - eliminate the problem - kill them. Hang them on poles and use them as living, human torches to light the way to his nightly orgies. Now the rest of society can live in peace and be happy. An interesting little side note - Nero killed the Christians making way to build his pleasure palace. Years later the Roman emperor Vespasian tore down Nero’s palace and gave the land back to the people by way of building the Colosseum where thousands more Christians would be killed. Whether it was for the pleasure of an emperor or the pleasure of the masses, the Christians were sacrificed.

History is repeating itself. What should we do? Do we run? Do we hide? Do we bury our head in the sand and pretend everything will be alright? Or do we stand firm, unshaken by the turmoil that surrounds us?

Peter lived in that godless Roman culture but stood firm in his faith. He has much to offer the true church of today. We need to fervently explore this letter. We need to ponder it. Treasure it. Heed it. Share it with those who are scared and shaken.

We must proclaim, “Stand firm!” God is on His throne; He is in control, and we are watching His story unfold before our eyes.

Do not fear! Stand firm. Be amazed at what God is bringing about.

DAY TWO

Today you begin digging into Peter's letter. The goal in our study is to become intimately familiar with this book. In order to do that you need to spend quality time interacting with God and His Word. Many fail in their study of the Word of God because they are not willing to devote the time it takes to thoroughly overview and observe the text. This does take time. It can't be rushed. Setting the context of a book is the key to understanding the author's intent and be able to rightly handle the word of truth. I can tell you from personal experience, it will be worth it in the end. You will have a storehouse of treasures that you can run to and cling to when the going gets tough.

As we take time to observe I Peter, we want to start with a thorough overview of the book. Remember to start your study with prayer. If you want to understand the importance of careful observation, here is a great website to look at.

<https://www.preceptaustin.org/observation>

1. Using the Observation Worksheets (OWS), read through I Peter. As you read, mark all the references to the author - his name as well as synonyms (apostle) and pronouns (I, me, my) referring to him. I underline these words with a blue colored pencil. Now go back and look at the markings and ask the Who, What, When, Why, Where, and How questions (5 W's and an H). For example: Who is he? What does he say about himself? Where is he? List what you learn by asking those questions on the page entitled Observations of I Peter on page 7. Don't read anything into the text, just record what is clearly stated. Include chapter and verse number with each observation.
2. Now read I Peter again and this time mark the recipients - their synonyms (brethren, the those who reside in . . .) and pronouns (you, your) and follow the same steps as above. I underline these references in green.
3. Record the type of literature this book is on the Observations of I Peter on page 8.
4. With the observations you have made to this point, can you deduce the author's purpose? If so, you can record this on the Observations of I Peter on page 8.

DAY THREE

Today we continue to observe I Peter. This time we are going to look at key words. Let's start by defining what key words are. A key unlocks a door. A key word unlocks the meaning of the book you are reading. So the question becomes, how do I find a key word? You have probably found some by now, and you are not even aware of them. A key word is an important word that is repeated throughout the entire book (not just one chapter). If that word would be removed, you would lose a big part of the meaning and purpose of the book.

When you find key words, you are going to mark them on your observation worksheets. You want to use different colors and different symbols. There is no right way or wrong way to do this. I am not an artist, so I tend to go with simple symbols and shapes like arrows, stars, triangles, squares, underlines, etc. You can find a several pages of suggestions of ways to mark key words on the walkinlight.net website. Type "key words" in the search bar and click on Inductive Bible Studies. When the page opens look at the Handouts - Marking Key Words and More Markings. The important thing is that you use the same symbol and color for a particular word throughout your study. When you do, these key words will pop off the page at you.

When you read through the book looking at and marking one or two key words, you may find even more that will strike you. When you do, read through again and mark those. One warning though. It is a key word to the book when it is mentioned all the way through the book. You may find a word that is repeated in one particular chapter and not the entire book. That word may be a key to that chapter but not to the book itself. We will mark those at a later time. If you mark it now and then realize later that it was only key to that chapter, it's okay. Just don't list that particular word on your list of key words for the book.

Any mention of the Godhead (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit) are always key; however, depending on how many times they are mentioned and how much time you have to put into your study, it may be a bit overwhelming to mark them at this time. If you choose not to mark them now, you will mark them and make lists about them when we go to the chapter studies later on.

With that background, I believe you are ready for your assignment for today.

1. If you already have some key words in mind, decide on a symbol and color put them on an index card. This will help you to mark them the same throughout the book. Read through I Peter again and mark them. As you read and mark, watch for other repeated key words that are mentioned throughout the entire book. Read the book again and mark those.
2. When we mark key words, it is important to make a list of what we learn about those words, just like we did for the author and recipient. On another piece of paper,

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record the key word and then list what you learn about that word remembering to indicate chapter and verse where you found that information. Do that for all the key words that you marked throughout I Peter. These key words will give you a clue to general subjects which will reveal major themes of the book. We will look at those later.

3. As you read and reread this book, you may have noticed historical, culture, and religious references. Record these on the Observations of I Peter on page 8.

Good work! Take a breath and allow these words to sooth your hearts and minds. Let God's Word richly dwell within you (Colossians 3:16).

DAY FOUR

1. Read through I Peter once again. Did you miss any key words? If so, take time to mark them now. Remember to make a list of what you learn about each word.
2. Remember that these key words will lead to general subjects which will lead to major topics. That is what we are going to look at for the next two days. If you haven't found Peter's purpose for the writing of this book, you may discover it by the end of this week.
3. As you have been working on your observation worksheets, you may have noticed lines between certain verses. These divide the paragraphs. Your assignment for today is to read through I Peter paragraph by paragraph. As you do this, look for the main idea in each paragraph. Remember that your key words will lead you to the main idea. Record a paragraph theme in the margin of your observation worksheets. Be as concise as you can, and it should have something to do with the key words it contains. When you read your paragraph themes, it should bring to your mind the main idea of that particular part of the chapter.

Just a word of encouragement. This task may seem daunting, but it does get easier with practice. Just do the best you can because just the process of thinking through this will drive these truths deep in your heart, and isn't that the purpose of our study?

DAY FIVE

1. If you didn't finish yesterday's assignment, take time to finish it today.
2. Now that you have completed your paragraph titles, it is time to pull all this together. When you start working on the chart, do your work in pencil. You may want to change your answers as you continue to familiarize yourself with this book. First, you are going to start by transferring your paragraph themes to the left hand column of the chart located on page 9. Notice that the top line is reserved for the Book Themes and Book Title. Right now you are working down the chart chapter by chapter. Chapter 1 has four paragraphs so in the box under "Paragraph Theme" chapter 1, you will write in your four paragraph themes. Do that for each chapter.
3. Now that you have the paragraph themes recorded, it is time to move to the other side of the chart and work on a chapter title. Look at your paragraphs and see if they are all pointing to a central theme. That will become your chapter title. You can record that chapter title in the appropriate box on the chart, and you can also write it on the line that begins each chapter on your Observation Worksheets.
4. Let's look at the book as a whole. You are going to go back to that top box that you left blank before, the one that says book. Looking down the paragraph themes, can you see three or four major themes that develop throughout the book? If so, record them in the box under the column of Paragraph Themes labeled book. Using all the information on the chart, can you give the book of I Peter a title? If so, you can record it in the box under Title for the book.
5. One last job before we call it a week. Have you been able to determine Peter's purpose for writing this book? If so, make sure to record it under author's purpose on page 8.

Well, this was an intense week! The first week is always the hardest because we have to familiarize ourselves with the entire book. Once we understand the purpose of the writing and how the book is put together, we can start looking more intensely at the book itself.

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing (handling) the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15

Observations of I Peter

Author:

Recipients:

Type of literature:

Author's purpose:

Key Words:

Historical, Cultural, and Religious References:

Other Observations:

I Peter Themes and Titles

PARAGRAPH THEMES		TITLES
	Book	
	Chapter 1	
	Chapter 2	
	Chapter 3	
	Chapter 4	
	Chapter 5	

I Peter
Lesson 1, Overview

Let's start the week by reading Proverbs 2.

My son, if you will receive my words
 And treasure my commandments within you,
Make your ear attentive to wisdom;
 Incline your heart to understanding.
For if you cry out for insight,
 And raise your voice for understanding;
If you seek her as silver
 And search for her as for hidden treasures;
Then you will understand the fear of the Lord,
 And discover the knowledge of God.
For the Lord gives wisdom;
 From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.
He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
 He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
Guarding the paths of justice,
 And He watches over the way of His godly ones.
Then you will discern righteousness, justice,
 And integrity, and every good path.
For wisdom will enter your heart,
 And knowledge will be delightful to your soul;
Discretion will watch over you,
 Understanding will guard you,
To rescue you from the way of evil,
 From a person who speaks perverse things;
From those who leave the paths of uprightness
 To walk in the ways of darkness;
Who delight in doing evil
 And rejoice in the perversity of evil;
Whose paths are crooked,
 And who are devious in their ways;
To rescue you from the strange woman,
 From the foreign woman who flatters with her words,
Who leaves the companion of her youth
 And forgets the covenant of her God;
For her house sinks down to death,
 And her tracks lead to the dead;
None who go to her return,
 Nor do they reach the paths of life.
So you will walk in the way of good people
 And keep to the paths of the righteous.
For the upright will live in the land,
 And the blameless will remain in it;
But the wicked will be eliminated from the land,
 And the treacherous will be torn away from it.

As the Proverb reminds us, let's seek after wisdom and understanding. It will be protection to our life, guidance to our feet, a delight to our soul, and a stronghold for our life. It will guard us from the wicked who follow the broad way which leads to death.

DAY ONE

Just as a reminder, make sure you begin every session of your study in prayer. God through His Holy Spirit reveals truth to your heart. Seek His help to reveal to you truths that need to be lived out in your life and to bring conviction to areas in your life that need to be refined. Allow Him to transform you by the renewing of your mind through His Word.

Last week you were tasked with determining the purpose of the writing of Peter's first letter. When we understand the purpose of the writing, then we can take every part of the letter and see how it accomplishes the author's objectives. It helps us to know what a passage can mean and what it can't.

1. If you missed it last week, read I Peter 5:12. Peter states the reason for the writing of this letter. List the reasons (there are two) of Peter's writing.
2. As you study I Peter, you are going to want to watch what Peter tells you about the true grace of God and watch how he exhorts (encourages) you to stand firm in it. So today you are going to begin by reading through the whole book and mark the word grace. If you have already done that, then check your list about grace and make sure you have recorded all the pertinent information. If you have done all that, then just read through I Peter and watch how each part of the letter works to help you understand the true grace of God. Use your list and record below what the "true grace of God" means.

I Peter
Lesson 2, Chapter 1

3. Even though stand firm was not a key phrase throughout the book, Peter gives information as to how you are to live in order to stand firm in the true grace. Make a list of the exhortations that urge the reader to stand firm. What are you to do? How are you to do it? Why is it important? Answer any of those 5 W's and H questions that you see.

4. If you didn't mark salvation as a key word last week, take time to read through I Peter one more time and mark "salvation." You should find it used four times. Record what you learn about salvation in the space below.

5. Read I Peter 1:10. How do true grace and salvation relate to each other?

6. One last assignment for today. Read the following verses and record what you learn about the relationship between grace and salvation.
 - a. John 1:17

 - b. Ephesians 2:8-9

DAY TWO AND THREE

Now you begin to dig deeply into this wonderful book full of eternal treasures. To do this, we need to follow the steps of good observation. Last week you worked on an overview of the whole book. That was like putting together all the outside pieces to a puzzle. You now have the framework established into which all the other pieces fit. If you take the appropriate time to observe a chapter, it will lead to a proper interpretation of the passage. There is only one proper interpretation of any given passage - that which the author intended when he wrote, inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. A proper interpretation will lead to the ability to apply these truths to your life in a way which will transform your walk before God.

Take the time and enjoy the journey. I will walk you through the steps to a thorough chapter study. Don't short cut this step because it is key to your understanding, application, and transformation for your life. Remember that you have two days to complete this assignment.

I Peter
Lesson 2, Chapter 1

1. Read through I Peter 1. Make sure that you focus simply on chapter 1. Don't go beyond that. Make sure that you didn't miss any key words from your marking last week.
2. Read through chapter 1 again, this time marking the key words of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. I mark God in a purple triangle, Jesus with a red cross, and the Holy Spirit with a purple dove. You can mark them anyway you wish. When you complete marking the Godhead in chapter 1, record what you learn about each Person of the Godhead on the pages of key words that you started last week.
3. Read through I Peter 1 one more time. Are there any other words that are key in just this chapter? If so mark them and then make a list of what you learn about them.
4. Look for and mark geographical locations. I use a green compass over the place.
5. Are there certain people other than the author and recipient that are mentioned in the chapter? If so, mark that person in a unique way.
6. Look for and mark expressions of time. I use a blue clock. These could be mentions of feasts, day or evening, or words like when, then, after this, until, now, soon, etc.
7. Look for and mark instructions. I underline mine in orange. Look for specific "do this" commands. Then make a list of instructions on a separate paper.
8. Look for and mark warnings. I put my warnings in a black box. Make a list of the warnings you have marked. I put them on the opposite side of the paper as my instructions.
9. Look for and mark contrasts. These show the differences between two words or concepts - opposites. I mark mine with a yellow lightening bolt through the word, then I put that lightning bolt on the side of the observation worksheet next to the verse and put the two words that are being contrasted on either side. Look for words like - but, however, yet, nevertheless, on the other hand.
10. Look for and mark comparisons showing the similarities between two or more words or concepts. I mark mine with brown lines going in both directions over the word and then I draw a line to the two words that are being compared. Look for words like - like, as, such as, also, etc.
11. Look for and mark terms of conclusion. These are words like - wherefore, therefore, for, for this reason, finally, etc. The author has stated certain facts and then states that this is how you should respond, this is what you should do. I put the word in a red box and draw lines that tie the fact with the response.

12. In each chapter, there are several paragraphs. These paragraphs are distinguished by vertical lines separating two verses. Summarize the paragraph by giving it a paragraph title. Follow the same procedure as you did for chapter titles.

DAY FOUR AND FIVE

I Peter is a book full of deep theological truths. There are some tough passages that need to be examined. One of those passages is in I Peter 1. It is a phrase that many will skip over because it is difficult to understand and for some difficult to accept. But if we take the time to study this phrase it can bring assurance and comfort to God's children.

What is the phrase? Look in I Peter 1:2. “. . . chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father . . .”

What does that mean?

1. In order to understand what Peter was saying, let's begin by looking at the words he used in the original language. Use whatever study tools you have to look up the following words in their original Greek. You may have a Strong's Concordance or Complete Word Study New Testament, or you can look it up on the computer in blueletterbible.org or just type in Strong's # . . . in your search engine. Record what you learn.
 - a. Chosen (elect, KJV) - #G1588

b. Foreknowledge - #G4268

2. Inductive study uses Scripture to interpret Scripture. You are going to use cross-references, so you can see how a word is used by the author himself and then by other authors. A couple of things to remember. First of all Scripture can never contradict Scripture. Secondly, you need to allow God's Word to explain itself - don't ignore anything written or read anything into the Scripture. Lastly, leave your presuppositions behind. Man's opinions don't matter. When you come to God's Word, you need to allow God to speak to you.

a. Look up the following verses and record what you learn about the word "chosen (elect - KJV). Make sure to read them in their context (verses before and after them).

1) I Peter 2:4-6

2) I Peter 2:9

3) Colossians 3:12

4) Romans 8:33

5) II Timothy 2:10

6) Titus 1:1

7) Revelation 17:14

8) Ephesians 1:3-4

b. Summarize what you have learned from these verses.

c. Now let's look at some verses that deal with foreknowledge.

1) I Peter 1:20

2) II Peter 3:17

3) Acts 2:23

4) Romans 8:29-30

5) Romans 11:2

- d. Summarize what you think it means to be chosen according to the foreknowledge of God.” Include to whom you think this phrase applies and why.

- e. Do you have any questions about what you have learned so far? We will devote several weeks to the study of I Peter 1, so some of your questions may be answered. If not, feel free to bring them up in class.

“I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!” - I Peter 5:12b

Peter was one of the twelve, chosen by the Lord Jesus Christ, to go and make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to observe all that He has commanded them - Matthew 28:19-20. In the first twelve verses of chapter one, he testifies to the true grace of God. The rest of the letter tells the recipients how to stand firm in that grace!

Let’s delve into this grace, salvation, this week. Approach this lesson with a heart that desires to understand God’s true grace and live in light of that understanding.

DAY ONE AND TWO

Begin each day’s study by committing your time to the Lord. Ask for understanding and the strength, through the Holy Spirit, to walk in what you have learned.

You are going to start by looking at the statement made in I Peter 1:1-2.

“ . . . To those who reside as **strangers** (aliens), **scattered** throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood**: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.” (I Peter 1:1-2) - emphasis mine.

1. Who are these strangers or aliens? Some believe that they are Jewish people who’ve been scattered from their homeland and are now living among the Gentiles. Others feel that they are Christians with a pilgrim-like life while sojourning on the earth. Which interpretation is correct? Does it really matter? Let’s do some digging and see what you can find and draw your conclusions from there.
2. Use your study tools or the internet to look up the Greek word for “aliens” (strangers) - Strong’s #G3927. Record all that you learn.

3. Now let's look at the word "scattered" - Strongs #G1290. Record what you learn by looking up the word. Then look up the following Scriptures and record how this word is used in the various contexts.

- a. John 7:35

- b. James 1:1

- c. Acts 8:1

- d. Acts 8:4

- e. Acts 11:19

4. There are also Scriptures that refer to Christians living as aliens, strangers, or pilgrims on the earth. Look up each reference and record your observations.

- a. Philippians 3:20

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- b. I Peter 2:11 - This uses two different words “foreigners” (strangers #G3941) and “strangers” (pilgrims #G3927). Look up both of these words and note their meanings.
- c. I Peter 1:17 - “the time of your stay” (sojourning - KJV)
- d. Hebrews 11:9-10, 13-16 - there are two different words used in these two verses. Record not only what words are used and their definitions, but also read through the context and record all that you learn.
5. According to what you have studied, who do you think Peter is addressing? Is it only the scattered Jewish Christians, or is it addressed to all Christians, Jews and Gentiles?

Does it make a difference? If this message is only intended for Jewish Christians, will they experience things that Gentile believers will not experience? Will this letter have more of an impact if Peter is writing to all believers and not just the Jews? Answer those questions and then you will do a bit more investigating.

Let's look for more clues inside the I Peter itself. Is it addressing Jews and Gentiles? Record what you learn from the following verses.

a. Read I Peter 2:10 and compare it with Ephesians 2:11-13. Record your insights.

b. Read I Peter 1:14; 4:3-4. Do these verses seem to address Jew or Gentile?

c. Read I Peter 2:12. Does this seem directed toward only Jewish believers or all believers?

6. Now for some conclusions.

a. So to whom do you think Peter was writing and why?

b. What does Peter mean when he calls the recipients aliens?

c. In I Peter 2:11, God refers to Christians as the aliens and strangers. Do these words pertain to you? Are you a stranger/alien in this world? Do you act like a(n) stranger/alien would act?

DAY THREE

In last week's study, you looked at what it meant to be chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father. Today you are going to look at the phrase "by the sanctifying work of the Spirit."

Salvation has three tenses.

- Past tense - Justification - We were delivered from sin's penalty - death. We were saved through the atoning work which Christ accomplished on the cross. When we responded to God's call on our life, drawn by the Holy Spirit, we were cleansed by the sacrificial blood of Christ, and at that point in time, we were transferred from the domain of darkness to the kingdom of Christ - the kingdom of light. The second death has no power over us anymore. This was a past event.
- Present tense - Sanctification - We are being delivered from sin's power. We are being saved from the pull of this world as the flesh desires to gratify self. This is the every day process of being set apart from the world as we draw closer to our Lord. This is our Christian walk, our daily life. It is a continual, habitual dying to self and allowing Christ to live through us. We are submitting our lives to the Lord and living in obedience to His Word. We are tested, tried, and purified by the Refiner's fire, and we remain faithful until the end. This is the daily sanctification process that takes place in a true believer's life as we grow and mature in our walk.
- Future tense - Glorification - We shall be saved from sin's presence and its consequences when we live in God's kingdom for all eternity where there is no death, no sorrow, no tears, no pain. We will reign with Jesus in the New Heaven, the New Earth, the New Jerusalem and never again be plagued with the sin nature that relentlessly pursued us as we walked on the earth where Satan prowled, seeking for someone to devour.

In our world of "easy believe-ism," it seems like the majority of religious people believe they can be saved, then lost, then saved again. I believe that the reason for this is that they don't understand salvation. They "make a decision" (say a prayer, walk an aisle, raise a hand) and now think they are guaranteed a place in heaven. Did you see what just happened there? They truly believe they were justified; therefore, they will be glorified. Isn't there something missing? We jumped from past to future. What about the present - the sanctification process? What about the way they live every day? Yes, they made a decision based on human reasoning, logic, and best intentions, not a decision based on the life-renewing work of the Holy Spirit. It is that life-renewing Spirit that causes us to walk in God's statutes and be careful to follow God's ordinances (Ez 36:27). There is a difference! If there is no sanctification going on in a person's life, then it follows that there was no real justification that took place.

Peter devotes 90% of this letter to explain the sanctification process. We would do well to heed that and take a good long look at our own life. Is sanctification happening in your life or did you believe that you could just jump from justification to glorification and live your life doing whatever is right in your own eyes?

1. What does the word “sanctification” mean? It is important to understand this word because it is a vital part of the salvation process. Look it up in your word study tools and record its transliteration and definition.

2. According to I Peter 1:2, who does the sanctifying?

3. What does God’s Word tell us about the sanctifying work done in our lives?

a. II Thessalonians 2:13

b. Hebrews 10 - Read the entire chapter, and then we’ll walk through it together.

The author of Hebrews shows that the Old Covenant, the Law, can’t make men perfect in that it doesn’t take away sin (verse 1). God inaugurated a New Covenant, grace, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. God replaced the Old Covenant with the New (Hebrews 10:9). Law was replaced by grace. Sins were no longer covered over, but we were saved from them. How was all this done? Read Hebrews 10:9-18 and answer this question. Remember that our focus is on sanctification and how and when it happens. If we are being sanctified, how does that affect our relationship with sin? Let me explain a couple of verb tenses to you to help you better understand the verses you are about to read.

Hebrews 10:10 - “have been sanctified” - perfect, passive participle

Hebrews 10:14 - “has perfected” - perfect, active, indicative

Hebrews 10:14 - “are sanctified” - present passive participle

For those who want to do an in-depth study of these verbs, I suggest this site.
https://www.preceptaustin.org/greek_quick_reference_guide#5

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For those who don't have time or access, I will give you a couple of quick notes on these.

Perfect tense - action completed in the past with results continuing into present

Present tense - continuous, habitual action, reflects a lifestyle

Active voice - the subject of the sentence is doing the action

Passive voice - the subject is being acted upon by outside force or power

Indicative mood - mood of certainty, stating a fact, there is no doubt

What have you learned about sanctification from Hebrews 10?

c. Read I Corinthians 1:30 and note how Jesus became sanctification for us. Just record what is written there.

4. I Peter 1:15-16 tells us to be holy. Can we do that in our own power or is it the sanctifying work of the Spirit? Explain.

DAY FOUR

“ . . . according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit . . . ”

1. What have we been sanctified to? In other words, what will our life be about and what has taken place in our life to allow that to happen? What has cleansed us to allow us to be holy?

2. Being sprinkled with His blood and obeying Jesus Christ go together, in fact, they are inseparable. Yesterday, you looked at how the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit ushered us into a new and living way. It brought us out from under the covenant of Law and moved us into the Covenant of Grace. We were saved by the blood.

a. Whose blood sprinkled us?

b. Why did Peter use the term “sprinkled”? There are some verses for you to look up. Read them in their context and record what you learn and how they compare to I Peter 1:2.

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Lesson 3, Chapter 1

1) Exodus 24:3-8 - watch for the words “covenant” (the Old Covenant, the Law), “obedient,” and “sprinkled.”

2) Isaiah 52:13-15 - This is a prophecy concerning Christ’s life and death and continues in Isaiah 53. Read through Isaiah 53 as well.

3) Hebrews 9:13-14, 18-22. Take the time to read the entire chapter of Hebrews 9. Watch for the words: “sprinkling,” “blood,” “sanctify,” and “forgiveness.”

4) Matthew 26:26-28

3. Taking all of these verses into account along with I Peter 1:2, explain the importance of being sprinkled by the blood. Be thoughtful and detailed in your answer.

DAY FIVE

Since we have seen a connection between being sprinkled with the blood and obeying Jesus Christ, we have to ask the question, can anyone be saved if they are not willing to obey Jesus Christ? This is what we want to look at today.

1. Look at the following Scriptures, carefully checking the context of each. Keep in mind our question, “Can anyone be saved if they are not willing to obey Jesus Christ?”
 - a. Romans 1:5
 - b. Romans 2:6-8
 - c. Romans 6:16-19 - Note the words “sin,” “sanctification,” and “obedience.”

d. Romans 15:18

e. Romans 16:25-26 - Look at the phrase “leading to obedience of faith.”

f. II Thessalonians 1:8

g. Matthew 7:21-27

h. Acts 5:28-32

i. Hebrews 5:9

2. "Obedience" and "disobedience" are key words in I Peter. Look at each one of these references and note how they relate to what you have learned about obedience and salvation
 - a. I Peter 1:14
 - b. I Peter 1:22
 - c. I Peter 2:7
 - d. I Peter 2:8
 - e. I Peter 3:1
 - f. I Peter 3:6
 - g. I Peter 3:18-20
 - h. I Peter 4:17

3. Summarize everything you have learned and how it relates to I Peter 1:2.

4. Now to summarize your study from this week, let's answer those questions we asked.
 - a. When you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Master, were you willing to be obedient to Him? Answer this truthfully and introspectively. The answer to that question is your assurance of salvation.

 - b. According to what you have learned, do you think a person can be saved and not be willing to walk in obedience to God's Word? Can they have grace and peace if they are not walking in obedience?

5. If you have time, you can check commentaries on I Peter 1:2. Don't go any further at this time. You could also look at a map and see if you can find the areas mentioned in I Peter 1:1

This week, we are going to look at our salvation - the true grace of God as described in I Peter 1:3-12. We will also see the purpose of trials and suffering in that salvation.

DAY ONE

1. Let's start with looking at the word "salvation." It is Strong's #G4991. Use whatever study tools are available to you and record its transliteration and definition.

2. Review what Peter had to say about salvation. Note what you learn.

a. I Peter 1:3-5

b. I Peter 1:6-9

c. I Peter 1:10-13

3. The first two verses are salvation in future tense. Does that mean that you cannot know that you are saved? What do you think? Explain.

4. Read I Peter 2:2. The word “salvation” is used in the NASB but not in the King James Version. Does this verse mean that salvation is something that is to be grown into? Let’s seek the Biblical answer.
 - a. Carefully read I Peter 1:3-5 and answer the following questions in light of the following verb tenses.
 - 1) has caused to be born again - aorist tense - a completed action
 - 2) obtain - not in the original Greek text
 - 3) will not fade away - unfading
 - 4) reserved - perfect tense - happened in past - results continue to present
 - 5) are protected - present tense - action that is continuous
 - 6) to be revealed - aorist tense - a completed action
 - b. Considering the text and verb tenses, when were you born again?

 - c. When is a believer guaranteed the inheritance?

 - d. When and how is a believer protected?

 - e. What did you learn last week about those who are born-again in I Peter 1:1-2?

5. Now we are going to go back and answer number 3. According to what you have read and what you have studied in God's Word, not according to any doctrinal persuasion you or someone else may hold, do you think you can know that you are saved now? Explain.

DAY TWO

1. Last week, we looked at the three tenses of salvation. Go back to last week's lesson, look at those three tenses, and explain each one in the space below.

5. Read I Peter 1:6-9. As you read through these verses, how do you think you could rejoice during trials if you were not sure of your salvation? Answer the following questions.
 - a. What is the purpose of your trials?

 - b. What are trials likened to in verse 7?

 - c. What is the end result of trials and when will that result be seen?

 - d. What should your response to the Savior be during these times of trial?

 - e. What relationship do trials have to salvation?

6. Now let's take some time to apply what you have learned. How do you respond to trials that come your way?

e. Psalm 66:10

f. Proverbs 17:3

g. Proverbs 27:21

2. The question that you now need to wrestle with is what is your attitude to be when you encounter trials of various kinds. Read the following verses and record what you learn from them and how they relate to I Peter 1:6-9.

a. James 1:2-4, 12

b. Romans 5:1-5

c. I Peter 4:12-13

DAY FOUR

“. . . I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!” - I Peter 5:12b.

Peter has exhorted and testified to the true grace of God in I Peter 1:1-12. In I Peter 1:13, Peter now turns to the topic of how to stand firm in that true grace - in our salvation. Let's take a look at the exhortations.

1. Read through I Peter 1:13-25 and list each exhortation, numbering them as you go. Leave space between each one. I have given you this page and the next to make your list.

-
2. Go back and read down your list one by one. Ask God to search your heart as you look at each one. Ask Him to reveal any areas of weakness or disobedience in your life. If there are exhortations you don't understand, write down your questions. If you have been impressed by anything in the exhortation, record it. Take your time. This is the remainder of your assignment for today. Take your time and thoroughly process this information.

DAY FIVE

Roll up your sleeves; it is time to dig in. We are going to look at these exhortations one by one and any doctrinal teaching that we will see along the way. This will be our job today and next week.

Our first exhortation is to “prepare your minds for action” or “gird the loins of your mind.”

In Biblical days, men wore long robes that would hinder them if they had to get somewhere in a hurry. If they tried to run in those robes, their legs would get tangled up in the material. In order to fix this dilemma, they would reach between their legs and grasp the back of the robe and pull it through their legs and tuck it into their belt. Their version of our modern day shorts. This would free up their legs allowing ease of movement for running or for a task. You can see this custom mentioned in I Kings 18:46 and Jeremiah 1:17.

1. Look up the following verses and record how they relate to the command of preparing your minds or girding your loins.
 - a. Job 38:1-3
 - b. Job 40:1-9
 - c. Ephesians 6:14

2. Remembering what we said about the cultural setting, what do you think Peter is telling you to do?

3. Why is Peter concerned about our minds? Throughout Scripture the heart and mind are interchangeable. Read the following verses and record what you learn from each of them.
 - a. Proverbs 4:23
 - b. Proverbs 23:7
 - c. Matthew 15:19
 - d. II Corinthians 10:3-7

4. We need to be very careful about our thought life. Read the following passages and record what you learn about your thought life.
 - a. Hebrews 5:11-14
 - b. Hebrews 6:11-12
 - c. Philippians 4:6-8
 - d. Romans 12:2

5. Again, time for personal reflection. Is your mind girded? Where do your thoughts drift when you are not carefully girding your mind? What steps are you taking to ensure you are taking your thoughts captive to Christ?

The Refiner's Fire

Some time ago, a few ladies met in a certain city to read the Scriptures, and make them the subject of conversation. While reading the third chapter of Malachi they came upon a remarkable expression in the third verse: "And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." One lady's opinion was that it was intended to convey the view of the sanctifying influence of the grace of Christ. Then she proposed to visit a silversmith and report to them what he said on the subject.

She went accordingly and without telling the object of her errand, begged to know the process of refining silver, which he fully described to her. "But Sir," she said, "do you sit while the work of refining is going on?" "Oh, yes, madam," replied the silversmith; "I must sit with my eye steadily fixed on the furnace, for if the time necessary for refining be exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured."

The lady at once saw the beauty, and comfort, too, of the expression, "He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." Christ sees it needful to put His children into a furnace; His eye is steadily intent on the work of purifying, and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for them. Their trials do not come at random; "the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

As the lady was leaving the shop, the silversmith called her back, and said he had forgotten to mention that the only way that he knows when the process of purifying is complete is when he sees his own image reflected in the silver.....

- Author Unknown -

We now know what true grace is. We know how precious the free gift of salvation is, but it costs us everything. We are now a slave to the King of kings and Lord of lords. We are a slave to righteousness.

True salvation enables us to stand firm in the midst of trials and tribulations. Well, what exactly does that mean - stand firm. I am so glad you asked. Peter is going to show us how to stand firm. Standing firm means that we are walking in obedience (remember I Peter 1:2) to our Lord and Master. Peter will show us what that looks like in rapid succession. It starts with girding up your loins, preparing your mind for action.

So with minds ready for action, focused on pleasing the one who has enlisted you (II Timothy 2:3-4), let's discover how that is lived out in your life every day. Remember that salvation (present tense) is the work of sanctification in your life. Every day being set apart as strangers and aliens to this world and all of its practices, and striving toward the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14-16) through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Pull up your robe, tuck it in your belt, and let's get to work. Remember to start each day in prayer for you are entering the arena of application and that sometimes means the very unpleasant task of self-examination and allowing God to correct the areas in your life that don't measure up.

DAY ONE

Day by day we will lay out the rest of Peter's exhortations. As you go through the observation and interpretation of each, make sure to take the time for the application process, in other words, be ready to examine your life and allow the Refiner to turn up the heat and scrape away the dross.

1. The next command is to "keep sober." The phrase "*in spirit*" has been italicized which means it was not in the original language but has been added to clarify the idea. Let's work through this expression and see how you measure up to God's standard.

- a. How would you explain what this means and how it applies to someone else?

- b. Using your study tools, look up the word “sober” (#G3525). Record what you learn.
- c. This is a present participle, active voice verb. Present tense means a habitual action (constant lifestyle). Active voice shows the subjects responsibility to accomplish this. How does knowing this add to your understanding of this exhortation?
- d. Now let’s take time to look at some cross references that may help expand your understanding of this command. Record what you learn from each and how it relates to our topic. There are many others that you could look at if you want to take the time to study this topic in more depth.
- 1) I Thessalonians 5:6-8
 - 2) II Timothy 4:5
 - 3) I Peter 4:7
 - 4) I Peter 5:8
 - 5) Ephesians 5:18

- e. Taking into account all that you have studied, now how would you explain the command to keep sober in spirit and how that would show in your life?

2. The next exhortation in I Peter 1:13 is to *“set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”*

- a. What does Peter mean when he talks about the “revelation of Jesus Christ?” Look at the following verse and record your insights. Make sure to check the context if necessary.

1) Matthew 24:27-30

2) John 14:1-3 - Jesus is speaking to His eleven disciples. Judas had already departed to betray Him.

2) Acts 1:9-11 - This took place at the time of Jesus’ ascension into heaven, 40 days after His resurrection.

3) Hebrews 9:28

4) Revelation 22:12-15

- b. Here is a review question for you. Answer this thoroughly as you should know this by now and be able to communicate its importance to others. What is Peter talking about when he says, “the grace to be brought to you”?

 - c. Why can your hope be set completely on this grace? Why do you think Peter used the word “*completely*?”

 - d. Read Matthew 24:44-51 and explain how this relates to the word “completely.”

 - e. Now let’s focus on the word “hope.” Using your study tools, record what you learn about this word.

 - f. Read II Corinthians 4:8-18. How does this passage tie in with the phrase “*set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*” from I Peter 1:13
3. What is your hope set upon in your daily life? Where is your hope fixed when trials come?

DAY TWO

1. “. . . do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance.”

a. Your ignorance of what or in what?

b. Complete a word study of the word “conformed (fashioning yourselves according to - KJV) #G4964.”

1) It is a present tense verb - a habitual action. Tell what that means.

2) Read Romans 12:1-2. Record how this relates to the idea of not being conformed to your former lusts.

3) Now read Colossians 3:5-8. How do these verses relate?

c. What does the word “*lusts*” mean? Look it up and record your answer.

d. List the lusts that were yours before you were born into the family of God through Jesus Christ.

e. Are there lusts trying to squeeze into your life today? Are they pressing you into the world’s mold? Examine your heart and mind to see if there is any false way in you.

2. I Peter 1:15 - Be holy in all your behavior for He is holy. What do you think Peter means when he called the recipients, and by extension, believers today to be holy? How holy are we to be? In what areas? How do we do it? Why is it important? As you take time to think about what this means and how it applies to your life, define the following words as you go: sanctified, consecrated, separation, devotion, aliens and strangers

There are many who ride the fence in our churches today. They want to blend in. They don't want to rock the boat. They don't want to create a disturbance because they stand against something and say, "I won't do it," "I won't be a part of it," or "My God requires me to be separate from the beliefs, thoughts, and actions of these worldly things."

Do you think that it is okay with God that, for the sake of getting along and not making waves or making someone feel awkward, we go along with the current of society, family, or workplace? Is this living in obedience to God's command to be holy as He is holy?

DAY THREE

1. The next exhortation is “conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay upon the earth. . .” Let’s put this into its context and dive in. Read I Peter 1:17-21. We are going to take time to look at the wealth of information contained here.
2. How does this exhortation fit in with Christ’s redemptive work? Take your time to really think through these verses and record what you learn.

3. Verse 17 begins with the word “*if*.” I am sure that most of us don’t take time to really think about this little 2-letter word, but do you realize that it can be defined in four different ways. Each different “class” or usage carries a different meaning. In such cases, it is really important to know how the author intended it to be used. Bear with me as I go through the four classifications of Greek conditional sentences.
 - a. **First Class Condition** - “simple condition” - assumes that the premise is true for the sake of argument. Since this if true, then this will happen. The word “if” could be replaced with “since.” Matthew 4:3 says, If you are the Son of God. . . Satan is not questioning who Jesus is and asking Him to prove it. Instead, Satan is saying, “Since you are the Son of God, here’s what I think you should do.”
 - b. **Second Class Condition** - “contrary -to-fact condition” - assumes the premise is false for the sake of argument. An example of this is in Luke 7:39 when Simon the Pharisee witnessed the sinful woman washing Jesus’ feet with her tears, he said, “If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is . . .” In other words, Simon is saying that Jesus isn’t a prophet or He would have known.
 - c. **Third Class Condition** - “present general condition” - This is the most common conditional usage in the New Testament. In most cases you won’t see the word “if”, instead “*ean*” is combined with the verb and acts as a helping verb that comes across in the English using helping verbs like might, would, should, or could and carries the idea that something is plausible but only

hypothetical. This is the form used in John 3:16b. (I know, this is confusing to me, too!)

d. **Fourth Class Condition** - “less probable future condition” - This rarely occurs in the New Testament and shows that something is very implausible (not reasonable). Romans 9:3 says, “*For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my countrymen, my kinsmen according to the flesh,*”. We know Paul is not going to be cut off from Christ, but he is making a point of how his heart goes out to his countrymen and his desire that they come to know Christ.

4. The “if” used in verse 17 is a first class condition, so it can be read, “Since you address as Father . . . conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay upon earth.” Does this help in your understanding of this passage?

5. God is the Father of all believers and also the impartial Judge. He will judge the works of each believer and reward you accordingly. When your works are judged, how will you fare? Does it matter? Isn't it good enough that we can just squeak by. There are many Scriptures that talk about this. Let's take time to look at a few. Try to grasp the gravity of your accountability before the Father who judges impartially.

a. Romans 14:10-12

b. I Corinthians 3:11-13

c. II Corinthians 5:9-11

d. II Timothy 4:1

8. In Biblical days, society was made up of free men, men born as slaves, and men made slaves because of debts. Most ransoms, except for Jews, were paid in silver or gold. In Jewish culture sacrifices paid for debts. Why could we not be bought from slavery by silver or gold? Why were blood sacrifices required for the Jews and then for Christians?
 - a. Leviticus 17:11 - "atonement" means a covering for sin
 - b. Hebrews 9:22
 - c. Hebrews 2:14
 - d. Hebrews 10:4-5; Matthew 26:28

9. John the Baptist calls Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Peter refers to Him as a lamb without spot or blemish. Paul calls Him our Passover. Jesus died on the 14th day of Nisan, the very day and time that thousands of Jews were sacrificing their Passover lambs. Do you think that was just by coincidence or was there something bigger happening. Read through I Peter 1:17-19; Leviticus 22:17-25; Exodus 12:2-14; I Corinthians 5:7. Explain the significance of these passages as though you were explaining it to a brand new believer or someone who is seeking to understand their need for salvation. I left the next page blank so you have space to work through this.

10. One last question. Why should you conduct yourself in fear during the time of your stay upon this earth?

DAY FOUR AND FIVE

Bear in mind that you have two days to complete this assignment so make sure you give each part the time and attention it deserves!

1. Read I Peter 22-25. Here is your last exhortation in chapter 1. “Fervently love one another from the heart.” Let’s take a look at some of the words in this passage. Use your word study tools and see what you can discover.

- a. Love - I Peter 1:22 (look up both uses)

- b. Seed - I Peter 1:23

- c. Word - I Peter 1:23

- d. Word - I Peter 1:25 (same word used both times)

4. What does it mean to be “born again?” Peter uses this term twice in this letter. Start by taking a look at both of these verses - I Peter 1:3, 23. Record what you learn (reading all the context that surrounds them) and also look up the Greek word #G313 (born again or begotten again - same Greek word). List everything you learn. Be specific.

5. The Apostle John gives us more information about what it means to be “born again.” Read all the passages listed and add them to what Peter had to say and then write out what it means to be born again. You have space to take notes here, and the next page is blank giving you plenty of space to write several paragraphs explaining what it means to be born again. John 3:1-21; I John 2:29; 3:7-10; 4:7; 5:1-5, 18.

Stand firm in the true grace that is your salvation. How do you do that? What should it look like in your every day walk? How is that lived out in our everyday relationships? Understanding these questions is the goal of this week's study.

DAY ONE AND TWO

1. You are going to begin your study this week by completing an overview for I Peter 2. If you need a reminder of the steps to take in this process, you can go back to lesson 2 pages 14-16. Take your time. You have two days to complete this assignment.

DAY THREE AND FOUR

This chapter contains a wealth of information, and it is so practical that you are going to discover how to use Scripture as a basis for prayer and petition, examination and confession, repentance and transformation, worship and praise.

Read through I Peter 2 on your Observation Worksheets. As you read, watch for punctuation marks that end each sentence. Using a pencil, colored pencil, or pen, draw a line to separate one sentence from another. There should be a total of 17 sentences. Write out the main idea(s) of each sentence (sometimes there is more than one) and next to it record whether it is a prayer/petition, examination/confession, repentance/transformation, or a worship/praise point. Write a short personal prayer for each point. I have left several pages for you to record your work and what you learn from each.

I Peter
Lesson 6, Chapter 2

How God Describes the Christian	Things I am To Do	Things That Do Not Belong in My Life

And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by people, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood. I Peter 2:4-5a

What is the importance of this statement? What does it mean to be living stones? Since we are in the practical application part of standing firm, how does this relate to how we live our lives?

DAY ONE

1. There is a doctrine called “apostolic succession” held by various theologians and certain denominations (such as Catholicism). This doctrine holds to the idea that the keys to the kingdom of heaven, therefore the truths of God’s Word were guarded by and passed down through Peter and then to a succession of men to follow. These guardians of truth were the Popes who now spoke of matters of the church, and their words and doctrines were accepted as truth from heaven above. This idea comes from the passage found in Matthew 16:13-20. Read this passage and record where this idea may have come from.

2. If you were unable to answer question #1, take a look at verse 18. “Upon this rock I will build My church.” Some feel that Peter was the rock upon which the church was built. Peter then passed the responsibility on to the next person. This “one” that was responsible for the church was called the “father” in Greek - papas, in Latin - papa. Around the 9th century, this “papa”, the bishop of Rome became known as the Pope of the Roman Catholic (universal) church. The question now becomes, “Is this what Jesus had intended?” If anyone would be able to answer this question, it should be Peter, don’t you think? Then let’s ask him. The idea of stones is used several times in I Peter 2. Let’s dig into some Scriptures and see what you can learn. Start by reading Matthew 16:13-20 again and then answer the following questions.
 - a. What question did Jesus ask in verse 13?

 - b. Who did other’s think Jesus was?

- c. Who did Peter say Jesus was?
- d. How do you think Peter came to that conclusion?
- e. You are going to look at the word choices used in verse 18. Use your study tools to look up the following words.
 - 1) Peter - #G4074

 - 2) rock - #G4073
- f. If you have the ability, look up what Vine's dictionary says about "rock." If you have access to the internet, you can look up the following site. Record what you learn.

<https://studybible.info/vines/Rock>

3. So when Jesus said that He would build His church upon this rock, did He mean it would be built on Peter, or upon the truth that Jesus was the Christ (the Messiah)? To whom did Jesus give the keys of the kingdom of heaven? Was it just to Peter or to others as well? What were those keys? What do keys do? What does it mean that “whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”? That’s a lot of questions, so let’s search the Scriptures to see what we can find. Read the following verses and record what you learn from each that may help you in your quest for finding truth.

a. Isaiah 22:22

b. Matthew 18:15-20

c. Luke 10:17-20

d. Luke 11:52

e. John 20:19-23

f. Ephesians 1:18-23

g. Revelation 1:18

h. Revelation 3:7

i. Revelation 9:1

j. Revelation 20:1

4. Summarize what you have learned about the “keys of the kingdom.” Go back to the questions in #3 and make sure you answer each on of the questions posed.
5. Putting all these verses together and going back to our original passage in Matthew 16, what do you think Jesus meant when He said He would build His church upon this rock?
6. With the confession made in Matthew 16 and what you found out about keys, their usage, and binding on earth and heaven, how can you tell whether someone is lost or saved?

h. Luke 2:34 (It doesn't mention "stone" but how does it relate to our topic?)

3. Peter refers to true believers as living stones and a holy priesthood. These living stones are built into a spiritual house. A house for what? Why is this being done? Take a look at the following passages and record your insights.

a. Ephesians 2:11-22

b. I Corinthians 3:16-17

c. I Corinthians 6:19-20

d. I Timothy 3:14-15

e. Hebrews 3:6; 10:21

b. Psalm 51:17

c. Psalm 107:22

d. Philippians 2:17

e. Philippians 4:17-19

f. Hebrews 13:15-16

g. Romans 12:1 (If it sounds familiar, it's because you read it in #5)

7. Have you ever considered yourself a priest, part of God's royal priesthood? Have you considered yourself a sacrifice? How do these thoughts impact your life today in how you live, work, speak, minister, etc.?

DAY THREE

1. You started this week with the teaching of apostolic succession. After the study you have done over the last couple of days, how would you respond if someone asked you what this meant and whether you think it is true? Take your time; review your notes; answer this completely using Scripture to defend your answer.

2. Read I Peter 2:9-12. Record who you are and what you are to do with your life. Are there areas in your life that you need to change in order to keep your behavior excellent in the eyes of men? Seek the Lord in prayer and let the Spirit reveal your heart before God. As you do this, remember that Romans 8:1 tells us that there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, but everyday we are undergoing the refining process under the watchful eye of the Great Refiner. He doesn't condemn, but He does discipline us for our own good (Hebrews 12:5-10). Understand and remember that condemnation comes from Satan whispering in the ears of our heart. When God speaks to us, it is designed to refine and purify, build up, encourage because He is a God of all hope, mercy, peace, and love. This is how you can discern the voice of God and the voice of the devil.

DAY FOUR AND FIVE

Remember to begin your time in prayer and seek truth with an open heart. We are about to enter into teaching on submission. This is not a popular subject. It's not that it is difficult to understand, in fact, it is a very simple concept to grasp; however, living it out on a daily basis is very difficult. It rubs against the fleshly desire that is within us, the whispers of Satan that tell us that we can be our own god. We have the right to do what we want. To be commanded to place ourselves under the direction of others is very hard to take.

You have two days to complete your assignment so don't get overwhelmed. Let's finish this chapter well. Peter still has much to teach you.

1. I Peter 2:13 begins the section of submission which will extend into the third chapter as well. Begin by looking up the definition of submit - G#5293

<https://www.studydrive.org/dictionaries/eng/ved/s/subject-subjection.html>

2. Hypotasso is used 40 times in the New Testament. I Corinthians is the only book that uses it more than I Peter. Look up each place that Peter uses the word. Record what you learn about submission by asking the 5 W's and H (who, what, where, why, when, and how). Make sure to read each one in its context.

a. I Peter 2:13

b. I Peter 2:18

c. I Peter 3:1

d. I Peter 3:5

e. I Peter 3:22

f. I Peter 5:5 (twice)

3. Now take a look at some of the other places this word is used. Note what you observe from each of these.

a. Luke 2:51

b. Luke 10:17-20

c. Romans 13:1-7

d. I Corinthians 15:27-28

e. I Corinthians 16:15-16

f. Ephesians 1:18-22; 2:4-6

g. Ephesians 5:21-22, 24

- h. Philippians 2:5-11 (the word is not used but humble obedience is shown)

 - i. Colossians 3:18

 - j. Titus 2:4-5, 9; 3:1

 - k. Hebrews 12:9

 - l. James 4:7
4. There is another word that is related to “hupotasso” and that is “hupakouo.” It means to listen or attend to which equates to submitting or obeying. Record your insight on these verses.
- a. I Peter 3:6

 - b. Ephesians 6:1 (Colossians 3:20)

 - c. Ephesians 6:5 (Colossians 3:22)

 - d. Philippians 2:12

 - e. II Thessalonians 1:8

f. II Thessalonians 3:14

5. Is there a relationship between submission and suffering? Read I Peter 2:13-25 and then answer this question. Give a detailed answer, not just a yes or no.

6. According to I Peter 2:13-25, who is suffering and why do they suffer?

7. Do you think that this passage has any relevance to us today? If so, why and how?

8. Christ left an example for us to follow. The word “example” is hupogrammos. As you saw with submission the “hupo” prefix means under. “Grammos” is writing. This is an under writing, a copy for imitation, like a child who places a paper over letters and then traces them. We are to copy Christ’s example. According to I Peter 2:21, what is the example we are to trace or copy? List His steps one by one and record how each one pertains to you. How would you live this out in your daily walk?

9. Let’s get personal, shall we? How are you doing with submission in your life?
 - a. List areas of obedience.

b. List areas of disobedience.

c. Why are you struggling with disobedience in the areas you listed above?

d. Do you trust God enough to turn those areas over to Him and walk in obedience?

e. What steps do you need to take to correct your walk, so you can walk in obedience and keep your behavior excellent so that because of your good deeds glory will be given unto God for Whom you have been made a holy priesthood.

f. If you have time, you can check your commentaries to see what they have to say about I Peter 2. Record any insights on a separate sheet of paper.

What does it mean to live righteously in a wicked and perverted world? There are many who have touted that you just need to follow Jesus and your life will be wonderful. Is that true?

It depends on your perspective. From a heavenly perspective it will be wonderful. You are seated in the heavenly places raised up with Christ (Ephesians 2:6) so we keep seeking the things that are from above (Colossians 3:1-2). “Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world” (I John 4:4). We have promises of His presence, protection, comfort, peace, and strength. “. . . to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord” (II Corinthians 5:8). We have a great hope of what lies before us.

BUT even though we are seated in the heavenly places, our feet are still walking on this earth. We are light in a world of darkness. We are truth lived out in a world under the power of Satan and his lies. We offer directions to find the narrow way to a world that prefers the broad. We are truly aliens and strangers who have a message that the majority don’t want to hear and will take offense to our words and our lives. From an earthly perspective our lives have just become a battleground. The war that rages leaves behind pain, sorrow, suffering, and persecutions.

There is a hope fixed before us. Keep your eyes fixed on Him and He will bring you safely through whatever storms may come your way. Live righteously because you have been clothed with Christ’s righteousness (II Corinthians 5:21). Be holy as He is holy (I Peter 1:15-16).

DAY ONE AND TWO

Begin this week’s study by prayerfully working your way through a chapter study on I Peter 3. If you need help with the steps, you can refer to lesson two (pages 14-16) which gives step-by-step instructions for completing a thorough observation of a chapter.

DAY THREE

1. I Peter 3 begins with “Wives, in the same way . . .” In the same way as what? It is a continuation from chapter 2. Read through chapter 2 and 3, and answer the question posed - In the same way as what?

2. Submission is a reflection to our attitude. We tend to buy into the lie that we are better than others, we deserve to be treated with respect and deference, and we don't have to do what someone else says. We listen to Satan's lie that he has used from the very beginning of time - You, too, can be like God. Live your own life; do your own thing; no one has the right to tell you what to do. God calls us to be slaves to a loving heavenly Father. We are to live in a constant state of submission, of viewing others as more important than ourselves. We are told to love our enemies, do good to those who persecute us. It starts with an attitude of a true slave. When we live like this, there will be those who take advantage of us and persecute us because our righteousness (light) will expose the wickedness of man's hearts. Suffering is to be expected, and when it comes (especially when it comes unjustly), how are you going to handle it and why? Before responding to that question, read through I Peter 1-3 slowly and thoughtfully. How does God expect a true believer to act as they walk through this life?

DAY FOUR

1. Today we are going to look at the marriage relationship in I Peter 3:1-7.
 - a. What is the husband’s condition in verse 1?

 - b. You may find it interesting to use your study tools and look up “disobedient.” Record all that you learn.

 - c. What is the wife’s call in this relationship? How are they to conduct themselves?

 - d. Can you see how the wife’s character and attitude reflect to the attitude of submission given in chapter 2?

2. Sarah is given as an example of proper behavior toward her husband. Quickly scan over these verses and record any information that would show her obedience or respect for her husband and how that may pertain to what we are studying. (Genesis 12:5, 10-20; 16:1-6; 17:15-21; 18:1-15; 20:1-13; 21:8-12)

3. God's command is for women to be submissive to their husbands even if the husband is disobedient to God's Word. Then the question comes up, "What if he tells her to do something that is in violation of God's Word?" I want you to record how you would respond to that question should someone ask it. Before you answer that question, take into consideration the following things.
 - a. what you have learned in I Peter about righteousness and suffering
 - b. what you have learned about obedience to God and submission
 - c. Acts 5:17-42
 - d. what you saw in Abraham and Sarah's relationship

4. What is God's exhortation to husband's in I Peter 3:7? Why?
 - a. How would you explain to a man what it means to live with his wife in an understanding way?
 - b. How would you respond to those who say a man will never be able to understand a woman so don't even try?
 - c. Read Ephesians 5:25-33 and Colossians 3:19. Record God's instructions to husbands. How do these fit in with our topic?
 - d. If you are a man, how do you measure up to the plumb line of God's Word?

What is the purpose of suffering in the life of a believer? Is it something that we should run from or something to be embraced?

DAY ONE AND TWO

Our assignment is to complete a chapter study on I Peter 4. Work carefully and thoroughly. Take your time and allow the Holy Spirit to teach you truth. Truth needs to be applied to your everyday walk.

Do you see a relationship between chapter 3 and chapter 4? Record your thoughts. Why does chapter 4 start with “Therefore?”

DAY THREE

1. Read I Peter 4:1-6. As you read, record any questions you may have on this passage.
2. Questions arise from verses one and two of what it means that “the one who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin.” Let’s take time to look at that. Read Romans 6. Do you see a relationship between I Peter 4:1-2 and Romans 6?

3. From what you have studied, how would you explain the first two verses of chapter 4?

4. Now let's tackle verse 6.
 - a. What do you think this verse is **NOT** saying? Why

 - b. What do you think it is saying?

5. Read what commentaries have to say about I Peter 4:1-6. Don't go any further than this. Record any insights you may have.

DAY FOUR

1. Read through I Peter 4 again. Keep in mind how chapter 4 relates to chapter 3.
2. I Peter 4:7 says that “the end of all things is near.” This was a familiar expression in the early church. “The end” was a reference to the climax of history, a fulfillment of God’s intended purpose in the history of mankind. Peter talks about that time period in his second letter where he refers to “the last days” or “last times (a key phrase in II Peter). Read the following passages and record what you learn about the end.
 - a. Daniel 12:9-13
 - b. Hebrews 1:1-2
 - c. Acts 2:16-21
 - d. I Peter 1:5, 20
 - e. II Peter 3:3
 - f. I John 2:18
 - g. I Corinthians 15:22-24

3. In I Peter 4:7, Peter states that the end of things is near; therefore . . . He then gave exhortations as to how to live in the light of these last times. Read I Peter 4:7-9 and list each exhortation along with an explanation of each one. You're welcome to use any word study tools to help you with this assignment.

4. Read I Peter 4:10-11. Peter references spiritual gifts and divides them into two categories: speaking gifts and serving gifts. Every believer has at least one Spiritual gift. Delving into spiritual gifts is not the purpose of Peter's letter, nor is it the purpose of our study at this time. This is a fascinating study to show how the body of Christ works in unity to accomplish His purpose and further His kingdom on earth. If this is a topic of interest to you, I would suggest taking a look at our website in the class archives. <https://www.walkinlight.net/class-archives>

g. I Peter 5:1

h. I Peter 5:10

3. Read through your commentaries and see what they have to say about I Peter 4.

4. If you or someone you know is suffering because of their relationship with Jesus Christ, what would you say to them in light of all that you have learned?

Peter finishes his letter with more exhortations of how to stand firm in the true grace of God. Finish strong as we come to the end of this powerful letter. Equip yourself to be an alien and stranger in this world, and may the differences in your life and the suffering you endure because of that difference bring glory to God. That is the purpose of our lives here in this world - in everything we say and do, bring glory to God. The more we stand out, the more we are willing to suffer the humiliation and the persecution, the more we bring glory to our heavenly Father and one day we will stand in His presence and hear, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

DAY ONE AND TWO

Our assignment is to complete a chapter study on I Peter 5.

DAY THREE

1. In I Peter 5:1-5, Peter directs his exhortations to the elders and the younger men. In the chart below, record what each are instructed to do.

Elders	Younger Men

2. Verse two talks about a shepherd. Let's see what we can learn about the responsibility and character of a shepherd. Record what you learn from the following verses.

a. Matthew 9:35-38

b. John 10:1-6, 10-16

c. John 21:15-17

3. Now let's take a look at the word "elders." Look it up in your word study tools.

4. The word "elder" is used 67 times in the New Testament. It is used 27 times in the gospels, 19 times in the book of Acts, 11 times in the Epistles, and 12 times in the book of the Revelation. You're going to look up a few selected verses from each category in order to get the feeling of how this word is used. Don't forget to always read the context in what a verse lies.

a. Matthew 15:1-2

b. Matthew 21:23

- c. Acts 4:5-8
 - d. Acts 14:23
 - e. I Timothy 5:1, 17, 19
 - f. James 5:14
 - g. Revelation 4:4, 10
5. According to all you have looked at, do you think that Peter is referring to an appointed position of elder, or just men of older age? Explain your answer.
6. Read Ezekiel 34:1-24. Compare this to what you have read in I Peter 5:1-5. How does this all apply to your life and the life of the local church?

3. Let's take a look at what it means to cast all your anxiety on Him (I Peter 5:7). Look up the following words in your study tools and then read the verses and record what you learn about handling your anxiety.
 - a. Anxiety (care - KJV)
 - b. Cast
 - c. Matthew 6:35-34
 - d. Philippians 4:6-7
 - e. Philippians 4:19
 - f. Romans 8:28-32
4. Summarize what you have learned about anxiety.

When we studied “The Sermon on the Mount” we did some research into what it meant to trust. I am going to include something that I wrote at that time. It is about trust. While that may seem to be off topic, what we learned is that anxiety is the opposite of trust.

Trust -

It means to attach oneself, to trust, confide in, feel safe, be confident, secure.

Its basic idea is associated with firmness or solidity.

This type of hope is a confident expectation, not a constant anxiety

We can truly relax when we know God is in control.

It strongly contrasts the folly of relying upon any other type of security instead of depending on God alone.

Anxiety is the opposite of trust.

Anxiety is the epitome of arrogance. It is thinking that we have control of the circumstance and God does not!

Anxiety doesn't come from thinking about the future. It comes from thinking we can control the future.

Do you trust the Heavenly Father with your life? If so, anxiety should not be part of your life. If it is, you need to take a look at your life and read the statements above again.

DAY FIVE

1. This is the last day of study together in the book of I Peter. Remember that Peter's purpose in writing was so that you would know the true grace of God and be able to stand firm. Standing firm is a military term. We are in a fight. Although we are seated in the heavenly places, our feet still walk around on this earth which is Satan's territory. We are light walking in darkness and the enemy, Satan, is not happy about that. So let's end our study with a quick look at Spiritual warfare. If this whets your appetite and you want more information, Precept Ministries has a book called "Lord, Is It Warfare, Teach Me to Stand." It is a great study. You should be able to get a copy online. You can also go to our class archives on walkinlight.net and look at lesson 11 in the Ephesians study. We went into a bit more depth in that study. Read the following passages and record everything you learn about the enemy and his tactics.
 - a. I Peter 5:8-9
 - b. John 8:44
 - c. Luke 22:31
 - d. II Corinthians 11:13-15
 - e. Ephesians 6:10-17

5. How does this perfecting, confirming, strengthening, and establishing happen?

6. If you have time, you can check what your commentaries say about I Peter 5.

You have finished the course. I pray that you can walk away from this study with a greater understanding of the true grace of God and the blessing that we have received because of it. I also pray that you have a better understanding of what it means and how to stand firm in that grace. May God bless you in your journey and gird you with His strength as you walk in Satan's domain and fight the good fight. When the suffering comes, keep your eyes fixed on Him and know that this is but a moment and eternity stands before you. Stand firm. Stand strong. Give the glory to Him.