

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.

— 1 Peter 1:1-2

Discussion/Journal Questions

As Peter begins his letter, he addresses God's chosen people spread among different regions of the world. Take a moment to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world. Specifically, pray for:

- Wisdom and protection of church leaders in time of great tension
- Boldness of persecuted believers to follow Jesus where he leads.
- Government leaders to be open to the truth of the gospel.

As you think through some of the concerning pressures our world, our nation, and the Church is under, which one is most concerning to you. In other words, what is most threatening to shake your foundation?

Read 1 Peter 1:1-2. As a group, reflect on what it means to be a foreigner. Have you ever had experience as a foreigner somewhere? What was that experience like?

What does it mean for followers of King Jesus to be foreigners in this world? In what ways is the Christian life foreign to the American way of life?

Reflect on 1 Peter 1:2. What role does each member of the Trinity play in this passage?

As foreigners in this world, how does God's foreknowledge, the Spirit's sanctification, and Jesus' sacrifice and kingship give us a foundation that cannot be shaken?

How can your group pray for you this week? How can you encourage and pray for them?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?