



We are excited for you to join us in the study of I Peter. The apostle Peter wrote this epistle as a way to console the Christians who were suffering persecution at the hands of nonbelievers. He encouraged them to continue living a life of sanctity and purity despite the troubles that they were going through.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to e-mail me at [ben.johnson@gdlc.church](mailto:ben.johnson@gdlc.church).

Peace as you saturate yourself in God's Word.

Pastor Ben Johnson

## **PART 1:**

What does it mean for a person to be a refugee, sojourner, or exile?

Meaning of Diaspora?

What connections is Peter making between the Israelite Exile & the Exile of these Christian believers?

How do verses 1-5 set up the statement that Peter makes in verse 6? What will be the perspective needed to endure the trials/sufferings that will come?

What effect does trials & suffering have on our faith (verse7)? (Imagery of Metal Refinement)

What in your life has happened that you feel was a time of refinement for your faith?

What kind of life is Peter calling these believers to embrace?

What is the motivation for this kind of life (verses18-19)?

What is the prevailing quality of a new believer that Peter describes in verse 22?

## PART 2:

How does Peter emphasize the changed life of a new believer?

What effect will kind of life have on the unity of the community of believers?

What is the “pure spiritual milk” that we are to long for (1:25)?

What imagery is Peter using in verses 4-10 to describe these Christians?

How does it make you feel to be chosen, royalty, and God’s possession? When is it most difficult to remember what God has made you?

What is this reality meant to do in the lives of those reading the letter?

How does their relationship with God influence their regard for human authority?

What authorities are over your life and how do you apply these verses to those relationships?

Peter wrote to a people who had no civil or employee rights. How would his advice be different to people in a country, or position, where their legal rights were being violated by authority gone bad?

How could Jesus’ example help when you face hardships you can’t change? How do you know when to submit resist?

## PART 3:

Important Note: Peter is not calling readers to passively embrace abuse but the goal of the letter was to encourage the readers that the way they change things is by living out their Christian calling amongst the relationships and communities that God has placed them.

Why do you think Peter spends more time speaking into the role of the wife in his letter?

What qualities in a wife are singled out? And in what ways our husbands to treat their wives?

As Peter turns to the greater community what qualities is he calling out in them to embrace and live through (verses 8-9)?

Peter is writing to a Christian people who are experiencing various trials, different forms of persecution and suffering. Why is he making such a point to speak into the unity of the community? What power does community bring to suffering?

What are we called to always be ready with in verse 15? What would you say in this moment?

How does help change your every day behavior and cost people to ask about it?

What is the situation in your life that seemed hopeless to you until God brought hope?

What was the basis for the hope that you had & how could God use that witness for others who are suffering?

## PART 4:

To us this chapter might seem strange but for the people that Peter is writing to it was intended to harm them with knowledge while also strengthening their courage for their new lives as exiles in a foreign land.

How does Peter connect “suffering” & “purging of sin” in the life of a believer?

What are the main values of the non-Christian community in this time (verse 3)?

What is their attitude towards those who do not participate in these things with them?

How is the Christian ethic notably different than the ethic of the world?

How does Peter describe the universal scope of the judgment of God (verses 5-6)?

What are times in your life when you have experienced the power of love covering over sin?

In what sense is the Christians suffering part of Christ suffering? Why should a Christian find joy in this?

If you were asked to tell a group of new believers what to expect in the Christian life, what are things (from 1 Peter) you would tell them?

We Christians are not persecuted a great deal by our government. What form, then, does your suffering for Christ take? Has such suffering purified, changed, molded, or matured you? How?

## PART 5:

After the previous section on suffering, from chapter 4, Peter now turns his attention to several specific groups of believers within the Christian community.

Shepherds/Pastors/Elders/Church Leaders & Young Leaders (verses 1-5)

What good and bad motives does Peter give for being in leadership?

What qualities does he encourage elders to cultivate?

Why would these qualities and proper motivation be important in times of persecution?

What is the specific advice does Peter give to young leaders? Why would this be important?

Peter now turns to the whole community and what exhortation does he give to everyone?

What is the difference between Pride & Humility?

What does Peter say we are to do with our anxieties? Why? What replaces them?

What is Satan currently up to on earth? Are we to be afraid? What is our response?

What does it mean we have been called to a Living Hope?