

Reflecting on Intro to 1 Peter | August 22, 2021

Intro Video: Before you begin your discussion of the introduction, take a moment to listen to an introduction to the book as presented by the Bible Project. Jot down anything that catches your attention in the space below so you can share it with the group:

Introduction: This morning we spent some time introducing the book of 1 Peter. After a brief (and somewhat academic) overview of the book, we considered a challenge from Peter's life and a short passage in 1 Peter 1.

When Peter decided to go back to fishing in John 21, it was a step away from what Jesus wanted. Through Jesus' encouragement, Peter redirects his trajectory back toward serving Jesus. We found traces of this decision in Peter's command in 1 Peter 1:13: "Set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." We challenged ourselves to consider what we are living for, this life or the next one.

Up for Discussion:

1. Think for a moment about the apostle Peter. His career as an apostle was a rollercoaster with plenty of highs and lows, from the confession of Jesus' deity (Mark 8) to the denying that he even knew Jesus (Mark 14). In the end, God used Peter in a great way as a key leader in the early church. What lessons can we draw from Peter's life? What Scripture verses might you connect with these lessons?
2. 1 Peter has much to say about enduring suffering. Take a few minutes and scan through the book to find any verses speak to this subject. What key points does Peter make about suffering?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:13. What do you think it means to, "set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ"? What is one step you could take this week to make this principle truer in your life?

4. One of the key themes in the book is how believers should reflect the holiness of God (1:13-25; 2:11–3:7). What does it mean to be holy? List out the specific commands given to believers associated with being holy.

5. Take time to share specific prayer requests with each other related to your spiritual growth. You could start your request, “One of the ways I hope to grow in the next few months is _____. Please pray for me.”