

Sermon Notes 9/14/25

In His Steps **sigáis Sus pisadas**

How do we follow in His steps?
¿Cómo seguimos Sus pasos?

1. Let's follow His example of _____.
Sigamos su ejemplo de _____.

1 Peter 2:13-14 (1 Pedro 2:13-14)

1 Peter 2:18 (1 Pedro 2:18)

Philippians 2:5-8 (Filipenses 2:5-8)

2. Let's remember how Jesus _____.
Recordemos cómo _____ Jesús.

1 Peter 2:21 (1 Pedro 2:21)

1 Peter 2:22-23 (1 Pedro 2:22-23)

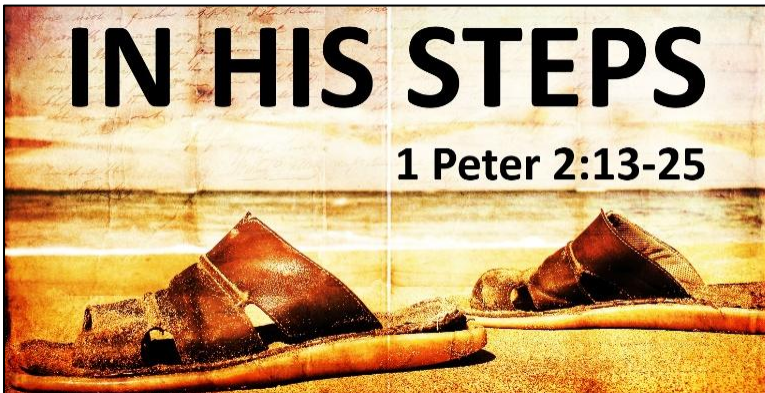
Hebrews 5:7-8 (Hebreos 5:7-8)

3. Let's make Jesus our _____.
Hagamos de Jesús nuestro _____.

1 Peter 2:25 (1 Pedro 2:25)

1 Peter 2:24 (1 Pedro 2:24)

John 10:10-11, 14-15 (Juan 10:10-11, 14-15)



Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 4: September 14

1 Peter 2:13-25

The Christians Peter wrote to were facing persecution in many ways. Most of the civil authorities were pagans who were suspicious of Christians. As a result, Christians often suffered from injustice in the courts. Christians were also mistreated in the workplace both as employees and as slaves. When pagan slaves or employees became Christians, their pagan masters would often question their loyalty and even punish them for turning away from pagan customs. What should we do when human authorities treat us unfairly because of our faith? In 1 Peter 2:13-25, Peter addresses this question and answers it by turning our attention to Jesus and the gospel. He tells us to follow in the steps of Jesus when Jesus was being treated unfairly at His trial.

Read 1 Peter 1:13-25

1. Why must we submit ourselves to civil government? (2:13)

Jack Cottrell writes,

The Greek word is *hupotasso*, meaning “to place under, to subordinate, to arrange in order of rank.” It is usually in the middle voice, meaning “to subject oneself, to be subservient, to submit, to surrender one’s own rights or will, to acknowledge another’s dominion, to obey.” In the New Testament the term refers to an order or arrangement set in place by God, and it means to acknowledge and to acquiesce to this divinely willed order. (Cottrell, 182)

2. What purpose does God have for civil government? (2:14)

Allen Black observes,

Between the provinces of Asia Minor and the emperor himself were the governors of the provinces, who were sent by the emperor to oversee the day-to-day matters of government. Even secular sources would agree that one of their chief purposes was to punish those who do wrong and commend those who do right. (Black, 72)

3. What does God want to accomplish through our obedience? (2:15)

4. What are we told not to do with our freedom? (2:16)

Cottrell observes,

True freedom is an attitude of the heart, a matter of motivation. It is achieved by learning to *desire* to do the things that we *ought* to do. Thus, we will do them freely. This is living free in the spirit, as children of God, even though in reality we are still in the role of slaves to our Creator-God. We are slaves, but we do not act with a slave *mentality*. (Cottrell, 185)

5. What does it mean to show “proper respect” to everyone? (2:17)

6. What does it mean for Christians to “fear God”?

7. To whom did Peter tell his readers to submit in verse 18?

Charles Swindoll writes,

In a twenty-first century world that rightly shudders at the sound of slavery as an abject violation of basic human rights, Peter’s words will seem shocking. To some, they will be downright offensive! The institution of slavery in Peter’s day was much different from the disgusting racist system in modern history or even the deplorable underworld slave-trafficking in our own days. But slavery in the ancient world could still be miserable, even deadly—especially if a master didn’t appreciate his slave’s newfound faith in Christ! (Swindoll, 195)

8. Why is it commendable when we endure unjust suffering? (2:19)

9. How is enduring unjust suffering better than enduring a punishment we deserve? (2:20)

10. What are we called to do in verse 21?

11. What did Christ do for us in verse 21?

Black comments,

Christ’s suffering is a pattern for Christian slaves to follow. Jesus himself had summoned his disciples to follow him in contexts in which he discussed his coming suffering (e.g., Mark 8:31,34). Peter’s wonderful addition of the phrase “in his steps” was the inspiration for the title of Charles Sheldon’s famous

book *In His Steps*. Christians are called to imitate Christ's willingness to suffer for doing good. He did it for us. We do it for him. (Black, 79)

12. What did Isaiah 53:9 predict about Christ? (2:22)
13. How did Christ respond to His suffering? (2:23)
14. Why did Christ bear our sins? (2:24)
15. How does verse 25 describe our relationship with Jesus?

Wayne Grudem notes,

“Returned” does not suggest that they had been with Christ prior to their straying, for the verb (*epistrepho*) is used elsewhere of “turning” or “being converted” from sin (Acts 3:19; 9:35; 11:21; 14:15; 1 Thess. 1:9). By specifying the one to whom they turned, Peter suggests that genuine turning away from sin also includes turning to Christ and submitting to his leadership as “Shepherd and Guardian.” (Grudem, 140)

16. Why is it difficult to submit to people who have authority over us?
17. When should we choose not to submit to human authorities? Why? (See Acts 5:28-29)
18. What does it mean to live for righteousness?
19. How can you exercise your freedom in a way that honors God?
20. In what situation can you follow Christ's example of suffering without retaliating?

Sources cited:

Black, Allen, and Mark Black. *1 & 2 Peter*. College Press, 1998.
Cottrell, Jack. *Studies in First Peter*. Christian Restoration Association, 2017.
Grudem, Wayne. *1 Peter*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.
Swindoll, Charles. *Insights on James, 1 & 2 Peter*. Tyndale, 2014.