



GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

Being Sharpened by Challenges

Speaker: Pastor Tony Orihuela

Highlighted Scripture

- **1 Peter**

Tony references the biblical instruction that believers should always be prepared to give a reason for the hope and faith they have.

- **John 16:33**

Tony references Jesus' teaching that believers will face troubles and challenges in this world.

Discussion Questions

- **How do you typically respond when someone repeatedly challenges or disagrees with you?**
- **Why can criticism or opposition sometimes be beneficial for spiritual growth?**
- **Have you ever experienced a situation where God used a difficult person to teach you an important lesson?**

- **What role does humility play when discussing Scripture with other believers?**
- **How can we defend biblical truth while still showing love and grace toward others?**

Reflection Challenge

Think about someone who regularly challenges, frustrates, or disagrees with you.

Ask yourself:

- **Is God trying to teach me something through this relationship?**
- **Am I responding with patience and grace, or with pride and frustration?**
- **How can I grow spiritually through this challenge?**

Try this:

- **Pray for someone who has been difficult for you to deal with.**
- **Before responding to criticism, pause and ask God for wisdom.**
- **Look for opportunities to respond with kindness rather than defensiveness.**
- **Spend time studying Scripture so that your beliefs are grounded in God's Word.**

Remember

- **God can use difficult people to help us grow.**
- **Challenges often reveal areas where we still need spiritual maturity.**
- **Being correct is less important than reflecting Christ's character.**
- **Scripture should always be the foundation of our beliefs.**
- **Growth often happens through discomfort and correction.**

Prayer

Father God,

Thank You for the people You place in my life, even those who challenge me. Help me respond with humility, patience, and grace when I face criticism or disagreement. Teach me to be grounded in Your Word and willing to learn from every situation. Shape my character so that I reflect Christ more clearly in both my words and my actions.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

