

“The way of the Christian leader is not the way of upward mobility in which our world has invested so much, but the way of downward mobility ending on the cross.”

—Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Reflections on Christian Leadership*

WELCOME

This is our last week in 1 Peter! As we study Peter’s closing remarks on leadership and charge to believers, discuss one or both of these questions:

- What is one of the unruliest groups you have had to shepherd (middle schoolers on a retreat, etc.)?
- Describe an ending you have experienced. What went well and what was challenging?

WORD

Read **Peter 5: 1-14**

1. What stood out to you in the scripture? In the sermon this past Sunday?
2. What is Peter warning church leaders about in verses 1-3? What are modern day temptations for leaders?
3. What may be happening in the church according to verses 5-7? Why might this happen in the church especially during a time of persecution? Any modern parallels?
4. How are Christians encouraged to deal with stress, tension, and hassles (verses 6-7)? What is challenging or encouraging about this word for you? What does humility mean for you?
5. What should Christians be alert to and self-controlled about (verses 8-10)? How does this relate to your experience?
6. What theme on suffering does Peter summarize in verse 10? In what way does this promise encourage or challenge you?

WORSHIP

1. Spend a few moments in silence, being in the presence of God.
2. Thank God for each other and God’s grace in Jesus Christ
3. Cast your anxieties on the Lord together. Pray for each other.
4. Pray for the church and the world.

WITNESS

1. What leadership responsibilities have you been called to? How is God encouraging you (or prodding you) to step into those?
2. How do you score on Peter’s leadership test? How can you improve your score?
3. What are some ways that you can ‘cast your anxieties on the Lord’ this week?

SERMON NOTES: