



WE STAND FIRM

A STUDY OF 1 PETER

A Hope That Holds

1 Peter 1:1-12 | August 23, 2026

Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

1 Peter 5:9

A hope that holds firm is a hope that is anchored in Jesus.

Here are a few things that Peter encourages us to do to have a hope that holds:

1. Turn our attention to Jesus.

Let's not get so focused on earthly trials that we lose sight of an eternal Savior.

2. Keep our faith in Jesus.

Our failures don't have to become the end of our story.

3. Strengthen others.

Our trials can become testimonies of God's grace and provision.

Whatever you're facing, don't lose hope. Our trials are temporary, but our hope is eternal.

NOTES: _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rooted: August 26 at 6:00 PM

NextGen Open House: August 30 at 6:00 PM

Habitat for Humanity Build: September 20 at 12:00 & 1:30 PM

Download our WCChurch app or scan the QR code for more info or to sign up!



STUDY QUESTIONS

GETTING STARTED:

Think of a time you experienced genuine culture shock — whether traveling, starting a new job, or entering a new season of life. What felt most disorienting about it? What helped you find your footing?

A DEEPER DIVE:

- » Peter calls the believers 'exiles' not as a punishment but as a reminder of their true citizenship in Heaven — in what ways do you feel the tension between belonging to this world and belonging to God's Kingdom, and how does that tension shape the way you live?
- » An exile is someone living in the displacement of what was lost and what is not yet, held by a God who has not forgotten where we belong. Where in your life do you most feel that sense of displacement, and what does it look like to trust that God has not forgotten you?
- » Peter writes in 1 Peter 1:2 that believers have been chosen by God, who knows everything about them. How does the reality that God knows you completely and still chooses you change the way you see yourself and your relationship with him?
- » God's protection through faith does not mean exemption from trials. How have you wrestled with the gap between believing God is your shield and still experiencing pain, loss, or hardship?
- » Peter describes the testing of faith through trials as being of greater worth than refined gold. Can you identify a specific trial in your life that, looking back, deepened your faith or revealed something true about God's character?
- » Jesus told Peter in Luke 22:32 not 'if' but 'when' you have turned back, strengthen your brothers. What does it say about God's grace that he entrusts people with a mission even before they have failed and been restored?
- » Research shows dramatic life change for people who engage with the Bible at least four days a week. What is one honest obstacle that keeps you from consistent engagement with Scripture, and what would it take to remove it?
- » How does the resurrection of Jesus practically change the way you face the most pressing difficulty in your life right now?

NEXT STEPS:

Choose one or two of these as a group commitment for the coming week.

Anchor in the Word. Commit to engaging with your Bible at least four days this week. If you are not sure where to start, read through 1 Peter 1 slowly, one section per day, and write down one thing that stands out.

Name Your Temporary. Write down one trial or struggle you are currently facing. Beside it, write the word "temporary." Then write one truth about Heaven or God's character that speaks to that situation. Keep it somewhere visible this week.

Strengthen Someone. Think of one person in your life who is going through a hard season. Reach out to them this week — a text, a call, a meal, or a note. You do not have to have answers. Just show up. That is what Peter did.