

Resting in our True identity

1st Peter 1:1-2

*“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the **pilgrims of the Dispersion... elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”*** (1 Pet 1:1-2. NKJV)

For Peter: A Change in Perspective

- A new understanding of the people of God (Acts 11:18)

Pilgrims, Exiles, Strangers, and Foreigners

- In the world but not of the world (Jn 17:14-19)

The Dispersion

- Scattered now, but one day gathered (Mat 24:11)

The Elect

- According to the foreknowledge of the Father
- By the sanctifying work of the Spirit
- For obedience to the Son, sealed with His blood

Grace and Peace in the Fullest Measure

- Living in peace by relying on grace (Rom 5:1-2)

For Life Group Discussion

1st Peter 1:1-2

1. How have you been tempted to find your identity in something (or someone) other than God? What lessons have you learned along the way? How would you advise others?
2. What have you learned so far about “gospel grammar?” Why is it important to begin with the facts about God before we consider our duty as Christians? What happens if we get these out of order?
3. Compare 1 Peter 1:1 with Hebrews 11:8-16. How can these examples guide us? How do they relate to Jesus’ prayer in John 17:14-19?
4. Compare 1 Peter 1:1 with Nehemiah 1:8-9 and Matthew 24:31. How are these verses related? In what way will the promises in Nehemiah find their ultimate fulfillment?
5. Compare the phrase “elect...according to the foreknowledge of God” in 1 Peter 1:1-2 with Deut 7:6-8, 14:2, and Isa 45:4. How are God’s choosing of Israel and His choosing of His New Covenant people related?
6. How does the concern of God toward our situation and the grace of God revealed in His saving and sanctifying work multiply our sense of peace, both with God, within ourselves, and in our stance towards the world?