

THE LETTERS OF 1, 2 PETER

Rising Above Difficulty and Deception **PART 1: READY**

Peter wanted Jesus' followers to be ready for Jesus's return. That meant living their lives in a way that represented Jesus, even during difficult circumstances.

WIN

To be inspired to act as imitators of Jesus in the midst of difficulty

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.

1 Peter 1:15-16

Just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

PRE-VIDEO TABLE DISCUSSION [6:30 PM]

REFLECT: First and Second Peter are letters written in the first century to many believers that were beginning to endure persecution.

QUESTION [A]: Have you encountered difficulties directly due to claiming to be a Christian?

- What happened? How did you respond?
- If you haven't encountered resistance in your faith, why would you say that's the case?

QUESTION [B]: How much of 1 Peter and 2 Peter have you read?

- Will this be your first time through these letters?
- How do you feel about beginning this three-week study?

PRAYER | 6:50 PM

Heavenly Father, thank you for inspiring Peter to write these words to Jesus' followers who were going through difficult times and how these words might apply to us today. Amen.

[ON YOUR OWN] WATCH THE VIDEO | NOTE-TAKING GUIDE [6:50 PM]



[WITH YOUR GROUP] GROW | POST-VIDEO DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION [1].

QUESTION: Did the video change or inform how you view the apostle Peter?

- If so, how?

DISCUSSION [2].

QUESTION: Peter's letter is written with a sense of urgency. Would you say that you live out your faith with a sense of urgency?

- Why or why not?

DISCUSSION [3].

REFLECT: Read **1 Peter 1:13–16** aloud. Peter reminds Jesus' followers to set their hope on Jesus's return and live their lives anticipating that return.

QUESTION: How often does Jesus's return come to your mind?

- How should the prospect of Jesus returning impact your daily life?

DISCUSSION [4].

REFLECT: Read 1 Peter 2:1-2 aloud. What keywords stand out to you?

QUESTION: Looking back at the last several years, would you say you're maturing in your faith?

- What are some indicators that make you say that?
- If you don't feel you're maturing, what would you say is the main obstacle?

Read through 1 Peter before your next session. In addition, try to memorize these passages:

MEMORIZE

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1 Peter 2:2

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1 Peter 1:15-16

PRAY | DISMISS [8:00 PM]

We suggest ending your group with prayer, asking God for the strength to set our hope on Jesus's return and to live out our faith with a sense of urgency.