

Resilient Faith: A Study of 1 Peter

Group Guide | January 18

Open with prayer (5 minutes).

Begin your time together as a group with a word of prayer. Thank God for this space to learn, share, and grow!

Reflect on and discuss your faith in Christ from the past week (10 minutes)

- Think over your past week. In what places did you find yourself needing to exercise resilient faith (e.g. in a moment of temptation, in a moment where you were at odds with your spouse, in a moment of pride at work, etc.)? Explain.
- In what ways did your faith fall short or feel fragile this past week? Share with your group what you experienced.

READ 1 Peter 1:3-12 and then discuss the sermon (30 minutes).

- What stood out or challenged you from Dan's sermon on Sunday?
- In your own words, how would you define holiness?
- In his sermon, Dan defined holiness as "to be set apart *from* and set apart *for*." Holiness means saying "no" to worldly things and saying "yes" to God and Godly things. When you think about holiness, what should the "no" side of holiness look like for Christians today? What should the "yes" side of holiness look like for Christians today?
- What does the "no" side of holiness look like for you personally? What does the "yes" side of holiness look like for you personally?
- Dan points out in this sermon that Peter gives us four "hows" for living a holy life. Which of the following "hows" are you needing most in your life today to live in holiness? Explain.

(1) A sound mind (1 Peter 1:13)

(2) A focused hope (1 Peter 1:13)

(3) A clear break from former, ignorant behavior (1 Peter 1:14)

(4) A fixed gaze on Jesus (1 Peter 1:15)

- Where is your mind "unsound?" Where is your hope not focused? Where are you giving in to "former, ignorant behavior" today? In what ways has your gaze *not* been fixed on Jesus lately?
- Finally, Dan pointed out how this passage gives us two main reasons to pursue holiness:

(1) We will face an impartial judgment; and

(2) Jesus died to set us free from sin

How does knowing you are “saved by grace but judged by works” propel you towards holiness? How does knowing Christ’s sacrifice on the cross propel you towards holiness?

If applicable, reflect on the 90-Day Bible Reading Plan (20 minutes)

- What was your time reading the New Testament and Psalms like for you this week?
- What is something you learned?
- What stood out or challenged you from God’s Word?

Finish with prayer (5 minutes)

Close your group time by sharing prayer requests and interceding for one another.