

**STUDY OF
FIRST
PETER**

Inver grove church of Christ

Spring 2016

Jaime Schuessler

1ST PETER

INVER GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

SPRING 2016

INTRODUCTION & CHAPTER 1:1-13

Welcome to a study of 1st Peter, I am excited for many reasons, as a teacher, I will be in my bible diligently looking and “Discovering” as we go thru this study this quarter.

This study is designed to be in two parts, one for our morning assembly and the second half to be taken to small groups for the afternoon.

Keys to this study:

Homework: Work, such as schoolwork or piecework, that is done at home.



Homework

DISCOVERY



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



My goal is that we cover the Homework and Discovery parts of each lesson in the AM class and take the Questions to the small groups. I would like to emphasize on the homework and the discovery parts of this lesson as you will see a new format, first of all homework is essential for both of these, we only have so much time as a group and I believe the homework will help lead each one of us into a “new” style of study called **DISCOVERY**.

The Challenge will be... we are going to help one another discover.

With much study and prayer, God will bless us with His wisdom, so please do both.

Here we go....



Homework

Read the book of **1st Peter** (yes, all 5 chapters, all 105 verses)

Find out who Peter is. We will discuss this in the Questions & Answers section.

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DISCOVERING THE THEME OF THE LETTER

1. Consider the following verses and comment on the theme(s) of the letter.
 - a. 1:3-5
 - b. 2:9-10
 - c. 3:1-3
 - d. 3:11-13
 - e. 4:1-4
 - f. 5:1-5



1. Who was Peter?
2. Where do we first read about him?
3. Can you describe a few things about Peter
 - a. His Family
 - b. His occupation
 - c. His character
4. What did God make Possible? 1Pet 1:3-5
5. Their unspeakable joy was caused by their love of whom? 1 Pet 1:8
6. Where should we be looking for comfort while suffering? 1 Pet 1:4-9
7. This Salvation was predicted by the _____, Revealed by the _____, ministered by the _____, and contemplated by the _____. 1 Pet 1:10-12

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CHAPTER 1:14-25

Who was Peter? John 1:42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone or Rock. Cephas was the Aramaic, Peter was the Greek pronunciation. He had a wife, (Mat 8:14) who seemingly was with him at times on his work (1 Cor 9:5).

He was a fishing partner with James and John, evidently a very well to do business man. He was energetic, enthusiastic, impulsive, impetuous, a natural born leader, with a good deal of human nature. Generally the main spokesman for the Twelve.

Though he once denied his Master, and dissimulated at Antioch. He was absolutely fearless under persecution. He laid the foundations of the Judean Church, and led it onward with such momentum that the rulers stood aghast.

A fisherman, became a fisher of men, astonished at Jesus command to lower the nets then caught two ships full of fish, called himself "A sinful man", he walked on water, he doubted, he confessed Jesus was the Christ, he rebukes the Lord, was called Satan, he was able to see Moses and Isiah on the mountain, told to forgive his brother 490 times not just 7 , feet washed by Jesus, boldly said he would not be offended, prepared the Passover, cut off a man's ear, fell asleep in the garden, he denied his Lord, swore, scattered, one of the first told about Jesus' ascension, caught 153 fishes in a net, was asked three times "do you love me?", he boldly preached his first sermon in Acts 2, he healed, spoke boldly about who he serves (God, not man), rebuked Ananias and Sapphria before their deaths, Scolds Simon the sorcerer, raised Tabitha from the dead, had a vision on a rooftop, imprisoned, freed by God, and still was humble enough to state, "Stand up; I myself also am a man".



Homework

Read and Meditate on 1 Peter 1:13-21

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DISCOVERING THE EXPECTATIONS OF GOD

1. In these verses, let's look at God's expectations. (what should we already know)
 - a. 1:1-2
 - b. 1:6-7
 - c. 1:8
 - d. 1:13-14
 - e. 1:17
 - f. 1:18-21



1. How should God's elect prepare themselves for the promised grace? When will this grace be brought to the Lord's people? 1 Pet 1:13
2. Name the characteristics which should distinguish the children of God from the children of the world. 1 Pet 1:14-16
3. How does God judge every man? 1 Pet 1:17
4. Discover and discuss how we were redeemed 1 Pet 1:18-21
5. What type of love and heart should we have towards our brethren? 1 Pet 1:22
6. Discuss the incorruptible seed and its life span. 1 Pet 1:23-25
7. What is all flesh compared to? 1 Pet 1:24
8. Finish the discussion with sharing some takeaways.

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CHAPTER 2:1-10

Our allegiance to Jesus today means, Suffering, Discrimination, and Ridicule, This letter from Peter is especially helpful for all who know such sufferings, or for those whose personal experience of suffering has caused doubts. The first letter of Peter perhaps helps us see God's prescription for those who suffer. It calls for holiness, for submission, and for acceptance of the amazing truth that suffering can be a gift from God.



Homework

I want us to envision this hope that Peter is circulating to these scattered brethren,
Where did most of this persecution come from?

How far did this persecution go with some brethren?

Is there persecution in the church today?



DISCOVERING OUR NEW IDENTITY

1. 2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2. Let's look to the 2nd chapter and see what Peter says our new identity should be.
 - a. 1:22
 - b. 2:1
 - c. 2:2-3
 - d. 2:4-5
 - e. 2:9
 - f. 2:10



These questions will help us build a house, and then explain the purpose of that house.

1. Who is the chief corner stone? 1Pet 2:6
2. Who are the living stones? 1 Pet 2:5
3. What are all these stones building? 1 Pet 2:5
4. What is the function of this house that's built? 1 Pet 2:5
5. Where is it contained in the scripture of the promise of the chief stone? 1 Pet 2:6
6. How is this stone being looked at by those who believe? 1 Pet 2:7
7. How is this stone being looked at by the disobedient? 1 Pet 2:7-8
8. Talk more about the Royalty that will be dwelling in this house. 1 Pet 2:9
9. Explain the marvelous transition that takes place in 1 Pet 2:10



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CHAPTER 2:11-17

Matthew 5:14-16 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. (15) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. (16) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Jesus spoke these words to teach that the Light of this World is the Good Works of His Disciples. 1 Peter says it again in these verses. Be a Good Citizen, or Subject, as far as possible, of the Earthly Government under which you live, Law-Abiding and Obedient, to Promote the good name of your religion, even though your Government be Headed by a Nero.



Homework

Think of ways that our selfish, sinful habits can cause the world to speak evil of you.

Will they speak evil of you? _____ Will it be true? _____

Will my actions speak differently? _____ Do my Good Works speak for me? _____



DISCOVERING OUR HUMAN AUTHORITIES

Let's look to these verses and discover how God wants us to behave, even if the odds are not in your favor.

- a. 2:11a
- b. 2:11b
- c. 2:12
- d. 2:13-14
- e. 2:15-16
- f. 2:17

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1. What are we told to abstain from? 1 Pet 2:11
2. What effect do the good works of Christians have on unbelieving critics? 1 Pet 2:12
3. Who are we told we must be obedient to? 1 Pet 2:13-14
4. What is the divinely appointed work of civil government? 1 Pet 2:14 (see Rom 13:3-4)
5. What is our punishment if we do not obey the civil law, even though we are “chosen”
6. Why should a Christian be obedient to civil rulers when their laws do not conflict with the law of the Lord? 1 Pet 2:15-16
7. Discuss these four duties as a group (discover them) 1 Pet 2:17
 - a. Honour all *men*.
 - b. Love the brotherhood.
 - c. Fear God.
 - d. Honour the king



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CHAPTER 2:18-25

Christian Servants. There were many slaves in the first century Church. They were exhorted to be Good Slaves, even to brutal Masters, and to endure, without resentment, any suffering wrongfully administered.



Homework

Find scriptures that talk about treating your servants and being Good Masters.

Quote Jesus as he spoke about being ill-treated....



DISCOVERING OUR SERVANTHOOD

Looking at today's lesson, let's discover what it takes to be a good servant.

a. 2:18a

b. 2:18b

c. 2:19-20

d. 2:21-14

e. 2:25

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1. What is the duty of servants to their masters? 1 Pet 2:18
2. When is suffering thankworthy (praiseworthy) 1 Pet 2:19-20
3. Who is our example and how did he bear his suffering? 1 Pet 2:22-23
4. What did his suffering and his death accomplish for us? 1 Pet 2:24
5. What is he to our souls? 1 Pet 2:25
6. Hopefully you will have time to look (discover) v2:20 again, try to break down just what is being said here.
 - a. How we behave....
 - b. How God looks on this....



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CHAPTER 3:1-7

Christian wives, (3:1-6) “Calling him Lord” (6) surely this is not to be understood as being a slave to her husband, but rather unselfish devotion, as to win his admiration and affection, and, if he is an unbelieving husband, by her loving behavior, win him to Christ. We don’t see these verses prohibiting a woman to dress attractively, just a little reminder to not overdo it, but keep in mind no amount of fine clothes, fancy jewels can substitute for her Godly Personality. Christian Husbands, IT IS MANLY to be tender towards the gentler sex. God’s plan is that marital love be mutual, each considerate of the another. Remember the one you love can be the one you hinder.



Homework

“Likewise”, “In the Same Manner”, “In the Same Way” why does he start out this chapter this way?

Discover Ephesians 5:22-33, What is the behavior of the wife and the husband supposed to be? likened to What?



DISCOVERING OUR SUBJECTION IN MARRIAGE

Last week we talked about being in subjection to our masters, this lesson shows how to be in subjection in marriage, let’s discover what many don’t see nor practice to have strong marriages.

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a. 3:1-2

b. 3:3-4

c. 3:5-6

d. 3:7a

e. 3:7b



1. What does “subjection” mean? 1 Pet 3:1
2. Who should a wife be in subjection to? 1 Pet 3:1
3. When is a wife justified in disobeying her husband? Acts 4:19; 5:29
4. What is of no value in winning unbelieving husbands? 1 Pet 3:3
5. What adornments are of a great price in the sight of God? 1 Pet 3:4
6. How did women of old time adorn themselves? 1 Pet 3:5
7. How did Sarah show respect and submission to Abraham 1 Pet 3:6
8. Name some duties and responsibilities of husbands to their wives. 1 Pet 3:7a
9. How can a husband's conduct toward his wife affect his prayers? 1 Pet 3:7b



Did you know?

The wedding ring goes on the ring finger, because it's the only finger with a vein that connects to the heart.

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CHAPTER 3:8-17

Doing Good.... Peter commanded Christians to not return evil for evil so they could receive God's blessing. The apostle's teaching reflects that of Christ **Matthew 5:43-44** *Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. (44) But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;* In chapter 2:20 he tells us suffering will do us good, now he reflects on these good attributes, unity, brotherly love, compassion, humility, Peter then quotes Ps 34:12-16 (vs 3:10-12) Peter's message is really saying, concentrate on doing good God will take care of the results.

Suffering for Doing Good... Remember our setting here, Nero is persecuting the church daily, normally no one will harm you for "doing good" (3:13) Even in the unlikely event that you do suffer for being good, you are blessed.



Homework

Consider our suffering today compared to their suffering then, can we even compare? Plan on sharing your thoughts on the differences in sufferings.



DISCOVERING OUR SUFFERING

Let's discover what it's like to do good, and suffer for doing good, then realize it is better to suffer for well doing.

- a. 3:8-9
- b. 3:10-12
- c. 3:13
- d. 3:14-15

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e. 3:16-17



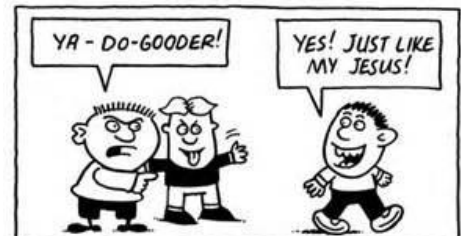
1. Name some duties and responsibilities of all Christians 1 Pet 3:8
2. What course should Christians pursue when they are reviled and persecuted?

And Why? 1 Pet 3:9

3. What must all do who would love life and see good all days? 1 Pet 3:10-11
4. The eyes and ears of the Lord are opened to whom? 1 Pet 3:12
5. His face is against whom? 1 Pet 3:12
6. Why should people of God be willing, when necessary, to suffer for righteousness sake? 1 Pet 3:13-14
7. What should Christians be always ready to do? 1 Pet 3:15
8. How can false accusers be made ashamed ? 1 Pet 3:16

9. Name the two ways one can suffer.... 1 Pet 3:17

- a. _____
- b. _____



Now which is the better cause according to God's will?

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CHAPTER 3:18-22

The sufferings of Christ are not like the above verses, we suffer for doing good, he suffered being just for those who were unjust, yet his suffering was that he might bring us to God. These verses boldly tell us Jesus would die from persecution, be buried, resurrected, and sit at the right hand of God. Having angels and authorities and powers were made subject unto him. Also these verses use Noah as an illustration of what baptism does, I want to dedicate some time today on this topic of Baptism so we can all be refreshed.



Homework

Who were the spirits in prison?

How were eight souls saved by water? Who were the eight?

Look up at least two forms of baptism practiced in the religious world, (why and how)



DISCOVERING BAPTISM

- a. 3:18
- b. 3:19-20
- c. 3:21-22
- d. Acts 2:38
- e. Rom 6:3-6
- f. Col 2:8-14
- g. Gal 3:27



1. Who did Christ suffer for and to what extent? 1 Pet 3:18
2. Who preached in the days of Noah? 1 Pet 3:19-20, 2 Pet 2:5
3. What doth also now save us? 1 Pet 3:21
4. What does baptism not do? 1 Pet 3:21
5. What do many religious groups say baptism is for?
6. Based on the scriptures we just discovered above, in your words what is baptism for?
7. Can one be “saved” without being baptized?
8. Eph 4:4 states One Baptism, does that mean only once baptized or one method for baptism, If I was baptized as a baby, can I get baptized again?
9. What takes place in the waters of baptism?
10. What is a huge role of the one being baptized?
11. Describe the honor and glory now occupied by Christ 1 Pet 3:22



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CHAPTER 4:1-6

Be armed for suffering. It was a time for persecution. The special exhortation of this epistle was for the Christian to be ready for it. This is something we can all relate to because few people go through life with just a few trials. They come in so many ways, physical, mental, heart suffering (aches). Consider how the trials we go thru are the very things that we don't want to ever face, yet God's plan is different, and the things desired, may never be a part of God's plan for us to have, so "we suffer" that too. Others see God's handy work as they go thru the sufferings, His grinding will produce a well-polished diamond that will be extra bright and beautiful.



Homework

Think of the last time you felt your trial was too much, and when God revealed the blessings at the end, how much did you rejoice? Share your story in class today.



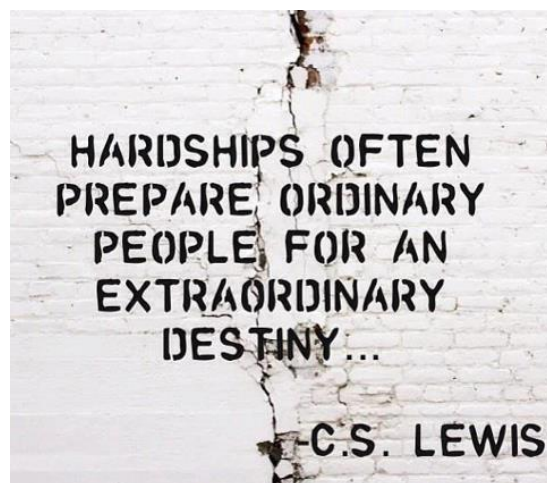
DISCOVERING HOW TO ARM OURSELVES

- a. 4:1-2
- b. 4:3-4
- c. 4:5-6
- d. Ecc 7:8
- e. 1 Pet 1:7
- f. Jas 5:10
- g. 2 Tim :12

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1. With what should the people of God arm themselves with? 1 Pet 1:4
2. How should they live? 1 Pet 4:2
3. Describe the unholy conduct of the Gentiles. 1 Pet 4:3
4. What seems strange to the world? 1 Pet 4:4
5. Why would they speak evil of you? (Share some Examples)
6. To whom must they give an account? 1 Pet 4:5
7. In a nutshell what are we suffering for?
8. What do these verses remind us about fitting in with the world?
9. What do these verses tell us about our past?



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CHAPTER 4:7-11

The Christian love. The supreme virtue of life. Peters exhortations to love are Beautiful. Love one another from the Heart Fervently 1:22 Honor all Men; Love the Brotherhood 2:17. Loving as brothers, Tenderhearted 3:8. Above all things being Fervent in your love among yourselves 4:8. Brothers in a common Glorious Hope, be REAL brothers to one another in a time of Suffering.



Homework

List in order the expectations of the 4:7 – 11 which could apply to all Christians.

What are the “oracles of God”? what is the definition?

Every week one of these verses is quoted by one of our brothers....

Can you tell me what verse it is, and when we could hear it?



DISCOVERING BROTHERLY LOVE

- a. 4:7
- b. 4:8
- c. 4:9
- d. 4:10
- e. 4:11



1. Why should all be prayerful and sober in mind? 1 Pet 4:7
2. What should be done above all things? Why? 1 Pet 4:8
3. What should be freely used for others? 1 Pet 4:9-10
4. How must all speak in act? 1 Pet 4:11
5. Write a paragraph of how you believe that you should love brethren.

Prepare to share this at your small groups. Then **DO IT!**



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CHAPTER 4:12-19

The Fiery Trial. Nero's persecution of Christians was the direct work of the devil (5:8) Nevertheless, by the Mysterious Provenance of God, it would turn out for the good of the Church, a trial more Precious than Gold (1:7) There has been many Persecutions since, many of them more brutal and widespread than Nero's in which an Unnumbered Millions of Christians have endured every Conceivable Kind of Torture. When we think of this we ought to be ashamed of ourselves of our fretfulness over our petty troubles.



Homework

Gather some information on the Internet about Nero's Persecution of the early church.



DISCOVERING FIRERY TRIALS

- a. 4:12-13
- b. 4:14
- c. 4:15
- d. 4:16-17
- e. 4:18
- f. 4:19



1. What might the faithful expect? 1 Pet 4: 12
2. In what should we rejoice? 1 Pet 4: 13-14
3. What should the Lord's people never be guilty of? 1 Pet 4: 15
4. In what name should we be willing to suffer and glorify God? 1 Pet 4: 16
5. Contrast the judgment of the righteous and the judgment of the wicked
1 Pet 4: 17-18
6. How and unto whom should those who suffer according to the will of
God commit their souls? 1 Pet 4: 19

*Do not think it
strange
that you are
going through
this fiery trial
(1 Peter 4:12)*

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CHAPTER 5:1-14

Peter begins this chapter speaking about the Elders in the church. He gives them direction, he also reminds them about the Chief Shepherd and the Crown of Glory that fadeth not away. We see a few verses talking about humility. And again were warned about the devil "our adversary". But verse 10 rounds it all up, (5:10) *But the God of all Grace, who hath called us unto his eternal Glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you a Perfect, Stablish, Strengthen, Settle you.*



Homework

Write down scriptures that talk about the Elders in the church today.
What are the qualifications? Who are they? What is their job(s)?

1
2
3
4
5
6



DISCOVERING HUMILITY

- a. 5:1-4
- b. 5:5
- c. 5:6-7
- d. 5:8
- e. 5:9-11
- f. 5:12-14

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REVIEW OF THE LETTER

We have covered 12 lessons Discovering this letter Peter wrote to the church that was under severe persecution, he reminded them that God is BIGGER that all their troubles, that they should stay faithful, because God is faithful until the end, and we have seen how in numerous occasions when the Church was persecuted the brethren became stronger. In our studies did we become more stronger? Is my battle really as BIG as I am thinking it is?



Homework

Review your notes from this quarter and prepare to share highlights from all 5 chapters.



DISCOVERING WHAT WE DISCOVERED

- a. Chapter 1
- b. Chapter 2
- c. Chapter 3
- d. Chapter 4
- e. Chapter 5



1. Talk about the changes you seen in Peter from John’s gospel until the end of 2nd Peter
2. Discuss all the trials Peter went though and how his words are words of a man who went through trials and remembered God was there. (look at lesson 2 for ideas)
3. Can you describe your “New Identity”? (Chapter 2)
4. Who is our main authority?, do we have others to obey?
5. What did you learn about subjection?
6. Is it refreshing to remember your baptism?
7. Can we suffer for doing the right thing? Did Jesus?
8. What can we arm ourselves with?
9. Did we learn how to Love MORE?
10. Really? Are our trials too much?
11. Can I be humble?

The End

