

Introduction

1. Read all of 1 Peter and write down the verses that are difficult for you to understand.
2. What facts do you already know about the apostle Peter?
3. Memorize 1 Peter 1:2.
4. Look up at least 10 of the following references, and list some facts you discover about Peter. What do you glean about his character from these verses? Matthew 4:18-22; 10:2; 14:22-33; 17:1-13, 24-27; 18:21; 19:27-30; 26:30-75; Mark 5:35-43; 8:27-33; 16:6, 7; Luke 5:1-11; 12:35-41; 22:7-13; 24:1-12; John 1:40-42; 6:66-71; 13:1-38; 18:10-11; 20:1-10; 21:1-25; Galatians 1:18; 2:1-14.
5. Also, skim the first 12 chapters of Acts to gain more knowledge of the apostle Peter, and write down what you learn about him.
6. Locate the places mentioned in 1 Peter 1:1 on a biblical map.
7. How would you explain the doctrine of election?
8. What do you hope to glean from this study this year? Stop now and ask God to help you to grow in the areas that He so desires. Pray for a heart willing to change.
9. Spend some time this week thanking God that He elected you to salvation. Be prepared to share how this election (so great salvation) has blessed and changed your life!

1. Read 1 Peter 1:3-7. (a) What do you learn about God the Father from this passage? (b) What do you learn about God the Son?

2. Peter says in 1 Peter 1:3 that we have been begotten or (born) again. Read John 3:1-21 and answer the following questions. (a) Who did not understand this concept? (b) How did Jesus answer his troubling questions? (c) What example from nature did Jesus use to help Nicodemus understand? (d) According to John 3:15-16, how is one born again? (e) Have you been born again?

3. Memorize 1 Peter 1:6.

4. (a) What does Peter say in 1 Peter 1:4 about our inheritance? (b) Read Revelation 21 and 22 and make note of the characteristics of our inheritance.

5. (a) Why should we rejoice in our trials, according to 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Galatians 5:22; Philippians 3:3; Philippians 4:4; James 1:2-3; and 1 Peter 4:12-14? (b) Does the word "rejoice" describe you when going through trials?

6. What do you think it means to be kept by the power of God? (1 Peter 1:5)

7. (a) If you were under terrible persecution, as the early Christians were, how do you think you would receive 1 Peter 1:6-7? (b) How would it be an encouragement? (c) How is it an encouragement now in your trials?

8. (a) Recall a time in your life when you went through a trial. (b) How was it used to glorify God and strengthen your faith?

9. Using 1 Peter 6-7,, write a prayer asking God to help you in your current trial.

The Importance of the Prophets

1. (a) Read 1 Peter 1:8-12 and write down at least five things you do not understand. (b) Now, take some time and do some searching to find out the answers to those five things you do not understand!
2. Memorize 1 Peter 1:8.
3. 1 Peter 1:10 mentions the prophets of old who prophesied of the grace that should come. (a) According to Acts 28:23, 24 what response did the people have concerning these prophecies? (b) Why did some not believe the words of the prophets? See verses 25-29. (c) What did Jesus say in John 5:46, 47 to those who would not believe the prophets?
4. (a) How were the prophecies revealed to the Old Testament prophets according to 2 Peter 1:19-21? (b) What is the "more sure word of prophecy" that Peter mentions in verse 19? (KJV) (c) What should be our response to this word of prophecy?
5. (a) After His resurrection, to whom did Jesus expound the prophets? See Luke 24:13-32, 44, 45. (b) What was their response? See verse 32.
6. The following passages are some prophecies from the Old Testament concerning the sufferings of Christ. Psalm 22; Psalm 69; Psalm 88; Isaiah 52:13, 14; Isaiah 53; Zechariah 13:7. (a) Skim these passages and list the sufferings you find predicted about our Lord. (b) Who is the prophet that is prophesying in each passage? (c) What is the "glory that should follow," according to Isaiah 11?
7. (a) Would you be able to explain from the New Testament how some Old Testament prophecies have been fulfilled? (b) Do you spend as much time in the Old Testament as you do in the New Testament? Why or why not? (c) After studying this lesson, do you see any importance in familiarizing yourself with the whole counsel of God?
8. (a) If you were an Old Testament Prophet, how do you think you would react to a prophecy revealed to you? (b) What was Daniel's reaction? See Daniel 2:19-23 and Daniel 10.
9. After carefully considering this week's lesson, come with a prayer request to share.

1. (a) What would you say is the theme of 1 Peter 1:13-16? (b) Can you think of any other portions of the Word of God which have the same theme? If so, what are they?

2. Memorize 1 Peter 1:15.

3. (a) How were the Israelites to eat the Passover according to Exodus 12:11? (b) According to 1 Kings 18:46 what did Elijah have to do before he ran? (c) What did the Lord tell Job to do, in Job 38:3? (d) As you look at these Old Testament examples and then look at Luke 12:35-40; Ephesians 6:14; and 1 Peter 1:13, what do you think Peter means by girding up the loins of your mind? (KJV)

4. (a) What happens when "obedient children" become disobedient? See Hebrews 12:3-11. (b) What are the results of one's chastening, according to the same passage? (c) Can you recall a time in your life when the Lord chastened you personally? What lessons did you learn through His discipline?

5. (a) What are some of our "former lusts," according to Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 3:5-9; 1 Peter 4:2-3; and 1 John 2:15-17? (b) What should our lives exhibit instead of former lusts according to Galatians 5:22, 23; Colossians 3:12-17; and 1 Peter 4:7-11? (c) Since your conversion, would you say that you have seen your life change from the 1st list to the 2nd list?

6. Peter mentions in verse 16 that it is written, "be holy for I am holy." Read Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2 and 20:7, 26 to see where this was first written. (a) What is the context (what is before and after) of each of these verses? (b) Why was it important that the Israelites be holy? (c) Why is it important that we as believers are holy? (d) Do you think it is really possible to be holy, as He is holy?

7. How do you think we as believers can practically gird up the loins of our minds?

8. (a) Should holiness be only an inner attitude of the mind, or should it include our actions? Support your answer with Scripture. (b) How do you teach your children, grandchildren, or anyone the importance of holiness? (c) How important is holiness to you?

9. Does holiness characterize your life? Please write your need in the form of a prayer request.

1. As you read 1 Peter 1, what verses do you find that deal with Christ's death? His resurrection? His ascension (or glory)? His second coming?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 1:18-19.
3. (a) Read Matthew 12:31-46; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 and Revelation 20:11-15. What things will we be judged for, according to these passages? (b) In looking at these passages, what other observations do you notice about the judgment to come? (c) Based on what you have just read, how then should we live?
4. (a) What kind of lamb was to be offered during Passover, according to Exodus 12:1-11? (b) Why did the lamb have to be without blemish, according to Leviticus 22:17-25? (KJV) (c) What did the Lord say through the prophet Malachi (1:6-14) about those who offered imperfect animals for sacrifices?
5. (a) What characteristics of a lamb did our Lord have, according to Isaiah 53:7? (b) Why was Christ the only perfect Lamb worthy to be offered up for our redemption, according to Revelation 5? (c) According to Hebrews 10:1-18 why did Christ have to die? (d) Why couldn't we just continue to offer animal sacrifices as atonement for our sins?
6. (a) What things were foreordained (designated beforehand) by God according to Jeremiah 1:4-5; Matthew 25:34; John 15:16; Acts 2:22-24; 13:48; 17:26; Romans 8:29-30; Ephesians 1:4-14; 2:10; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:19-20. (b) What do these verses teach you about the concept of something being foreordained?
7. What does it mean to you personally that Christ would shed His precious blood for you?
8. (a) Would you say that you are walking your pilgrim journey here on earth with a reverential fear toward God? (1:17) (b) How do (or did) you instill a fear of God in your children?
9. Write a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for His gift of salvation to you.

1. (a) Read 1 Peter chapter one and note all the words or phrases you see that are repeated. (b) Why are these important?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 1:22.
3. (a) What did Jesus say would characterize a Christian, according to John 13:34-35? (b) How should we love one another, according to 1 Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9-10 and Hebrews 13:1? (c) What are the characteristics of love, according to Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 3:8-9; 4:8 and 1 John 3:17-18? (d) In 1 John 4:20-21 what does John say about those who do not love their brother?
4. (a) What are the characteristics of genuine love, according to 1 Corinthians 13? (b) How would you define each of these qualities of love in 1 Corinthians? (c) What qualities of love do you find difficult to practice?
5. (a) In John 4:7-10 who does John say is the supreme example of love? (b) How did this example show His love? (c) Because of His example, what should we do, according to 1 John 3:16? (d) How do you think we practically lay down our lives for each other?
6. (a) Besides our Lord, who else comes to mind in Scripture as one who showed love to the brethren? (b) How was their love shown? (c) What principle(s) do you learn from them?
7. What practical tips can you give others on how to love difficult people that God has placed in your life?
8. How would you summarize 1 Peter chapter one using only three sentences?
9. Honestly evaluate your love of others according to question four. After doing so, write down a prayer request based on the quality(s) of love that is lacking in your life.

1. As you read 1 Peter 2:1-3, do you see any connection between these verses and the last several verses from chapter one? If so, what is the connection?
2. (a) What are the characteristics of a hypocrite according to Matthew 7:1-5; 15:7-9; 23:13-33; Mark 12:13-15? (b) What is going to happen to hypocrites according to Job 36:13 (KJV) and Matthew 24:51?
3. Memorize 1 Peter 2:2.
4. Make three columns on the back of your paper. Label the first column: Who Was Envious; label the second column: Why they were envious; label the third column: The result of their envy (Or what you learned about envy). Look up the following verses to fill in these columns: Genesis 37; 1 Samuel 18:1-16; Psalm 73; Matthew 2.
4. (a) In James 3:1-12 what does James say our tongue is like? (b) Why is the tongue so hard to tame according to James? (c) What does the Word say about women and their speech in Proverbs 6:24; 31:26; 1 Timothy 3:11; 5:11-14 and Titus 2:1-3? (d) What do you find personally challenging about taming your tongue?
5. (a) King Saul committed each of the five sins listed in 1 Peter 2:1. Read 1 Samuel chapters 18 and 19 and write down each incident in Saul's life where you see these five sins committed. (b) What does this teach you about the fact that one sin leads to another, which leads to another? (c) What Biblical counsel would you have given King Saul after the incident in 18:7-9 happened? (d) How would you admonish him so that his sin would not produce other sins?
6. (a) Are you guilty of any of the sins listed in 1 Peter 2:1? (b) What have you done in the past to root it out, and what are your current plans for laying it aside?
7. Would you say you have a hearty appetite for God's word? If not, what are you filling up on? Try this exercise this week: make two columns one listing "Biblical Input," which would include Bible reading, study, teaching, preaching, etc. The other listing "Other Input," including entertainment, phone calls, meetings, internet surfing, etc. Keep a record each day and then total up the hours in each column. What did you discover?
8. In looking over questions seven and eight, what is your prayer request?

1. (a) Read 1 Peter 2:4-8. List the names or characteristics that Peter uses for believers and for unbelievers. (b) Also read over Acts 4:1- 13 and note how Peter applies these same characteristics to the Jewish leaders.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 2:7-8.
3. (a) What kind of garments were the priests to wear, according to Exodus 28:1-2 and Psalm 132:9? (b) What kinds of restrictions were put on their personal lives, according to Leviticus 21? (c) What was a priest to do, according to Numbers 18:7; Malachi 2:7; Hebrews 9:6, 7? (Also skim Leviticus 8 and 9 to answer this question.) (d) Taking what you have just learned, how does this help you to understand what Peter says in 1 Peter 2:5?
4. (a) What are some of the spiritual sacrifices we as believers should be offering to the Lord, according to Psalm 4:5; 50:14, 23; 51:17-19; 141:2; Micah 6:6-8; John 4:24; Romans 12:1-2; 15:16; Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 2:17; 4:17-18; Hebrews 13:15-16 and Revelation 8:3? (b) Which of these sacrifices do you need to be offering to the Lord?
5. Isaiah 8:14, 15 and Isaiah 28:16 are two of the quotes Peter uses in 1 Peter 2:6-8. Read both of these chapters in Isaiah. (a) What was happening in Isaiah's time that caused him to write these things? (b) How does this help you to understand better what Peter was saying in 1 Peter 2:6-8?
6. Read Romans chapter 9, and especially note verses 14-24. (a) How does this reiterate what Peter says in 1 Peter 2:8, "... being disobedient to the word to which they were also appointed"? (b) What do you think this means? (c) How do you rectify this with what Peter says in his 2 Peter 3:9?
7. In what ways is the Lord Jesus precious to you?
8. In looking over #4, where could you improve in your service to God? Please put this in the form of a prayer request.

1. Read 1 Peter 2:9-12 and write down the different names that Peter uses for believers. (You should find at least eight.) (b) What do you think these mean?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 2:11.
3. Hosea 1 and 2 are the background for Peter's words in 1 Peter 2:10. (a) Read Hosea 1 and 2 and write down the context of what is going on. (b) Did Israel deserve God's mercy? Why or why not? (c) Did she receive God's mercy? Why?
4. Peter speaks of sin warring against our soul, in 1 Peter 2:11. (a) What does the Psalmist say happened to his soul when he gave up the fight against sin? See Psalm 6:3, 4; 31:9, 10; 38:3; 41:4; 51:8, 12. (b) What happens to your soul when you give up the fight against sin? (c) How would you explain to a struggling believer that giving up the fight against sin is not worth it?
5. (a) According to Romans 8:13, what happens to those who live after the flesh? (b) What are some of the works of the flesh, according to Galatians 5:16-21? (c) Do you think that someone can practice these things and still be called a "Christian"? See Galatians 5:19-24; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Revelation 21:8. (d) If you know a so-called Christian who is practicing sin, how would you compel them to be reconciled to God?
6. (a) In Titus 2:3-5 what is the command to women? (b) What is the reason for this command, according to verse 5? (c) What is the command to young men, according to Titus 2:6-8? (d) In Titus 2:9, 10 what is the command to servants? (e) Again, what are the reasons for these commands in verses 8 and 10? (f) How does this go along with what Peter says in 1 Peter 2:12?
7. (a) When was the last time you gave praise to God in the presence of others? (b) Why do you think we as Christians are reluctant to praise God in the presence of others?
8. (a) In looking back over the list of character qualities (question 6) that should be present in us as women, how would you say you are faring? (If you really want to deal with this honestly, ask your husband or a close friend.) (b) Do you think the unbelieving world sees these things as evident in your life? (c) How would you help another woman who is struggling with one or more of these areas?
9. Write praise to God expressing your gratitude for the fact that you have been chosen by Him!

1. Compare Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2. (a) What things do you find that are similar? (b) Why do you think Paul and Peter write similar admonitions?

2. Memorize 1 Peter 2:17.

3. (a) Read Daniel chapter one. How did Daniel make his appeal to earthly authority (the king)? (b) What was the result? (c) What principles do you learn about making appeals to governmental authorities when you don't agree with them?

4. (a) Now read Daniel chapter three. What happened that caused Daniel's three friends to defy the king's command? (b) Did God protect them? If so, how? (c) Do you think God will always protect His own when they have to disobey earthly authorities? Why or why not?

5. (a) In Acts chapter five, what were Peter and the apostles doing that caused them to be thrown into prison? (b) How did Peter justify disobeying the high priest, according to verse 29? (c) What was the apostles' response to suffering because of their loyalty to Christ, according to verses 40-42? (d) Recall a time when you suffered because of your loyalty to Christ.

6. (a) How do you think we as believers should respond to jokes about our president and others in authority? (b) What does the Bible say in 1 Timothy 2:1-2?

7. (a) Do you think it is okay for a believer to exceed the speed limit? (b) To cheat on their income taxes? (c) To tell jokes about their governmental authorities? (d) To not participate in voting in the elections?

8. Are you in submission to authority? (Governmental? Church? Husband? Employer?) If not, write a prayer request asking God to help you in this area, or, write a prayer request for those in authority over you.

1. (a) What are the names for Jesus that Peter uses in 1 Peter chapter 2? (b) Summarize chapter two in three sentences or less.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 2:21-23.
3. (a) What should be our response to those who treat us unjustly, according to Matthew 5:11-12, 39-48 and Luke 6:32-36? (b) Are these your responses when treated unfairly?
4. (a) Contrast Peter's responses to persecution with our Lord's responses in Matthew 26:57-74 and John 18:1-11. (b) After His Lord's death how do you think Peter felt about his failures to respond righteously?
5. (a) Peter says in 1 Peter 2:23 that in Christ's sufferings, He did not retaliate but committed Himself to the One who judges righteously. As you read the following accounts of His sufferings, how do you see our Lord committing Himself to the Father? Matthew 26:47-67; 27:45-50; Mark 14:32-38; 15:1-5; Luke 23:26-46; John 19:9-12. (b) How do these verses help you to commit yourself to the Lord during suffering?
6. (a) In what ways are we to follow the example of our Lord, according to John 13:12-15; Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Peter 2:21; 1 John 2:6 and 3:16? (b) Can you think of any example that Christ left for us while on earth that we should not emulate?
7. (a) In looking at Psalm 23, Ezekiel 34:11-31, and John 10:1-18, 27-29, what things do you notice to be the roles of our Good Shepherd toward His sheep? (b) In what ways have you experienced the role of the Good Shepherd in your own life?
8. (a) What do you think Peter means in 1 Peter 2:24 when he says "by whose stripes you were healed"? (b) Is this physical, spiritual, or both? Support your answer from the Scriptures.
9. (a) Is suffering for Christ difficult for you? If so, in what way? (b) What principles have you learned from your own sufferings, that you could pass on to others to encourage them in their sufferings?
10. How can we pray for you in the trials you are going through? Please put your needs in a prayer request.

What Does a Beautiful Woman Look Like?

1. Ephesians 5:22-24, Colossians 3:18, Titus 2:3-5 and 1 Timothy 2:9-15 are the major passages in Scripture regarding submission of wives to their husbands. Read each passage and answer the following questions: (a) Why are wives to be submissive? (b) What should be our attitude as we submit? (c) What is the difference between these four passages and the one in 1 Peter 3:1-6?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:3-4
3. (a) Should a believing wife divorce her unbelieving husband? Why or why not? See 1 Corinthians 7:12-16. (b) What if her unbelieving husband initiates divorce, what should she do? (c) What is the only other allowance for divorce, according to Matthew 5:27-32?
4. (a) What are the spiritual benefits of having a meek (KJV) spirit, according to Psalm 25:9; 147:6; Isaiah 29:19; 57:15; Matthew 5:5; 1 Peter 3:4. (b) For those who are up to it, ask your husband, or if you are unmarried ask a good friend, if they think you have a meek and quiet spirit.
5. (a) What should women be doing with their time, according to 1 Timothy 5:10, 14 and Titus 2:3-5? (b) Would you say that this is how you spend your time? (c) How much time do you think you spend on the outer woman (makeup, doing your hair, exercise, etc) in contrast to the time you spend on the inner woman (time in the Word, prayer, fellowship with the saints, and those things mentioned in the above verses, etc.)? Keep a journal this week to evaluate how you spend your time.
6. (a) In what ways was Sarah submissive to Abraham, as seen in Genesis 12 and 18:1-15? (b) What were her attitudes? (c) Do you think she should have been submissive in each of these areas? Why or why not?
7. If you are married, ask your husband this week if you are submissive or not. If he says "no," ask him in what way(s), so that with God's help you might change. (If you are single, ask a family member, your employer, or your pastor if your life is characterized by humble submission to authority.)
8. Based on what you have learned, how would you counsel a Christian friend whose unsaved husband is (a) asking her not to attend church anymore, (b) asking her to participate in pornography, (c) asking her not to discipline the children, and/or (d) yells at her and uses verbal and physical abuse?
9. Look over 1 Peter 3:1-6, and ask God what He desires for you to work on in your life. Then write a prayer request.

1. (a) What are the responsibilities of the husband to the wife according to Ephesians 5:25-33, Colossians 3:19 and 1 Peter 3:7 (b) What are the reasons these attitudes must be present?

2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:7.

3. (a) What does it mean to be of “one mind” (to live in harmony) according to the following verses: Acts 4:32; Romans 12:16-21; 15:5-7; 1 Corinthians 1:10-11; Philippians 1:27; 2:1-8; 3:16? (b) Which one of these passages is very similar to 1 Peter 3:8-12?

4. (a) Peter says in 1 Peter 3:9 that we are not to repay evil with evil. What do you see Peter doing in John 18:2-11? (b) What was the Lord’s response to this here in John as well as in Luke 22:47-53? (c) Now read Acts 5:40-42 and note what Peter does when he is wronged. (d) Why do you think there is a change in Peter’s attitude from the accounts in the gospels to the account in Acts?

5. (a) Peter mentions in 1 Peter 3:8 that we are to be compassionate towards one another. Read Matthew 18:21-35. What question does Peter ask the Lord that causes the Lord to give such a masterful illustration of being compassionate? (b) What things stand out to you as being so awful about the servant who owed 10,000 talents? (c) What can you learn from Christ’s story for your own life regarding compassion?

6. (a) How can we bless those who do evil against us, according to Matthew 5:43-48 and Romans 12:19-21? (b) What are some other practical things that you have found helpful when others do evil or say evil things against you?

7. (a) How could you use verse 9 of 1 Peter 3 to instruct a child who hits back when he is hit, or speaks evil when he is spoken to in an evil manner? (b) Do you model this type of behavior before others, especially before your children and grandchildren?

8. (a) When you consider the five qualities of being like-minded from 1 Peter 3:8, which are lacking in your life, and why? (b) What can you do to remedy that?

9. After considering question eight, please put your thoughts in the form of a prayer request asking for God’s help in this area. (Put your prayer into action this week!)

1. 1 Peter 3:10-12 is a quote from Psalm 34:12-16. Psalm 34 is written by David during the events in 1 Samuel 21. Read Psalm 34 and 1 Samuel 21 and answer the following questions. (a) What events happened in 1 Samuel 21 that caused David to fear? (b) What did his fear lead him to do, according to Psalm 34? (c) How do the events in 1 Samuel 21 help you to understand what David writes in Psalm 34? (d) How does Psalm 34 show that David was encouraged by the Lord during his trial? (e) How would these words encourage Peter's readers? (f) How do they encourage you?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:12.
3. (a) How does Romans 3:13, 14 describe our speech? (b) How is our speech described in James 3:5-10? (c) What does James say in 1:26 about those of us who cannot control our tongue? (d) Why do you think Peter gives controlling our tongue as a key to loving life in 1 Peter 3:10?
4. (a) To whom are we supposed to "do good," according to Galatians 6:10? (b) Why is "doing good" not always easy, according to Romans 7:18-25? (c) What does James 4:17 and 3 John 11 say about those of us who do not practice good? (d) Why do you think "doing good" is another key to loving life?
5. (a) What things can hinder our prayers according to Psalm 66:18; Matthew 6:5-8; Mark 11:24-26; Luke 18:10-14; 1 Timothy 2:8; James 4:1-4 and 1 Peter 3:7, 12? (b) Are any of these things hindering your prayers? (c) What can you do to remedy that?
6. How did Paul see his "bad days" as "good days," according to 2 Corinthians chapters 6, 11 and 12?
7. How does 1 Peter 3:12 encourage you when others are doing evil against you?
8. How could you use 1 Peter 3:10-12 to help someone who is not enjoying life and possibly even considering taking their own life?
9. (a) What are some practical ways that you have learned to control your tongue that you can pass on to others? (b) How are you (or how did you) train your children to control their tongue?
10. (a) Do you love life? (b) If not, what is hindering that? (c) Are any of Peter's admonitions hindering your love for life? Please come with a prayer request so that others might pray for your need to start loving life the way God intended!

1. (a) As you read 1 Peter 3:13-17, what qualities (for a Christian) do you see that Peter has already mentioned in this same chapter? (b) What connections do you see?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:17.
3. (a) What are some reasons we should not be fearful of our enemies, according to Isaiah 41:10-14; 51:12, 13; Jeremiah 1:8; John 14:27; 2 Timothy 1:7? (b) Who should we be fearful of, according to Luke 12:4, 5?
4. Isaiah 7 and 8 are the setting for Peter's quote in 1 Peter 3:15, "Sanctify the Lord in your hearts" (KJV) (see Isaiah 8:13). (a) What is happening in these chapters? (b) What is the reason Isaiah says, "Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself"? (c) Why do you think Peter quotes Isaiah in 1 Peter?
5. (a) Who is asking Peter of the "hope within him" in Acts 4:1-12? (b) How does Peter defend his faith? (c) What can you learn from Peter about sharing your faith?
6. (a) What does our conscience do, according to John 8:9? (KJV) (b) What kinds of consciences should we as believers have, according to Acts 23:1; 24:16; Romans 9:1 and 1 Timothy 3:9? (c) What kind of consciences do unbelievers have, according to 1 Timothy 4:2 and Titus 1:15? (d) How does a good conscience help believers in time of trial? (e) How does it help in opportunities of witnessing?
7. (a) Do you know how to defend your faith? In other words, can you share the gospel in a winsome and clear way, defending your faith in Christ? (b) What are some ways you have learned that you could pass on to others?
8. Does Christ have first place in your heart? If not, why not? Also, if not, who or what has first place?
9. Please write a prayer request based on your answer from question 7 or 8.

1. (a) Read the first three chapters of 1 Peter and list all the verses which refer to the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (b) Also make note of any observations you see on the death and resurrection. For example: Christ's death was once in 1 Peter 3:18. (c) Why do you think Peter keeps emphasizing the death and resurrection of Christ?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:18.
3. (a) Why did God want to destroy mankind in the days of Noah, according to Genesis 6:5-13? (b) How long did He wait for mankind to repent while Noah built the ark, according to Genesis 6:3? (c) What does this teach you about God's patience with mankind? (d) Has mankind changed, according to Matthew 24:36-39?
4. (a) What do you notice about those being baptized, according to Matthew 3:6; Acts 2:38, 41; 8:36-38; 10:47 and 18:8? (b) Who was one of the first individuals to be baptized in Matthew 3:13-17? (c) What did God say about Him in verse 17? (d) Why do you think God was pleased? (e) Have you been baptized since your conversion? If not, why not?
5. (a) What is Jesus doing at the right hand of God, according to Romans 8:34 and 1 Peter 3:22? (b) How long will He be there, according to Psalm 110:1? (c) When will this happen, according to what John records for us in Revelation 20:7-15?
6. What do *you* think 1 Peter 3:19 means?
7. (a) What do *you* think Peter means in 1 Peter 3:21 where he states, "even baptism does also now save us?" (KJV) (b) How do you personally deal with portions of God's Word that are difficult for you to understand?
8. (a) Would you say that you have a clear conscience before God and others? (b) Is there anything that you need to make right with God or another individual? If so, do so today!
9. In considering question three, how has God shown patience towards you? Put your words into a prayer of thanksgiving to God.

1. (a) As you read 1 Peter 4:1-6, try to put yourself in the shoes of these persecuted Christians. How would these verses be an encouragement to you? (b) How would they be a warning to you?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 4:1.
3. (a) Peter says in 1 Peter 4:2 that we are to suffer with the same mind (attitude) as our Lord did. What was the attitude that Christ displayed during suffering, according to Matthew 26:38-46; Luke 23:33-46; Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Peter 2:21-25? (b) Which of these attitudes is especially difficult for you when encountering suffering?
4. (a) What are some biblical reasons that we should not live as we used to live before we became Christians, according to 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Galatians 5:19-22; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1-8 and 1 John 5:4? (b) What are some practical reasons that you can think of that we should not walk as we “once walked”?
5. (a) Who in Luke 15:11-32 was involved in “riotous living”? (b) Was it satisfying to his soul? Prove your answer with scripture. (c) Did he repent of his sinful life? Again, prove your answer with scripture. (d) What principles can you glean from this parable regarding “riotous living”?
6. (a) What are the reasons we should not get drunk, according to Proverbs 23:29-35 and Ephesians 5:18? (b) What are we to do instead, according to Ephesians 5:18? (c) What are some practical reasons that you can think of that we should not get drunk?
7. (a) What sins listed in 1 Peter 4:3 do you see mentioned also in Exodus 32? (b) What did God want to do to His people, according to Exodus 32: 9, 10? (c) What happened to them for their disobedience, according to Exodus 32:25-35? (d) What makes the Israelite’s behavior especially grievous?
8. What are some principles for suffering from 2 Corinthians 4:8-18 that you could use to encourage yourself and others when encountering suffering?
9. How do you personally handle ridicule from others for your attachment to Christ?
10. Are you currently suffering because you are a Christian? Please write your need in the form of a prayer request.

How to Occupy Until He Comes

1. (a) Read 1 Peter chapter four and list all the commands you find. (b) How many did you find? (c) List the reasons why Peter perhaps gives these commands.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 4:7.
3. (a) In light of the Lord's return, what should we be doing, according to Matthew 25; Mark 13:32-37; Romans 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 15:58; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Hebrews 10:19-25; James 5:8-12; 1 Peter 4:7-11; 2 Peter 3:4-14, and 1 John 2:28? (b) What are some ways you are "occupying your time" until the Lord's return?
4. (a) Why should we avoid predicting dates for the Lord's Second Coming, according to Matthew 24:36-44? (b) According to Matthew 24:4-31 what things have to happen first?
5. (a) Who covered another's sin in Genesis 9:20-23? (b) What was the sin that was committed? (c) Who covered another's sin in 1 Samuel 25? (d) What was the sin that was committed? (e) What happened to the sinner, according to verses 36-38? (f) What principles can you glean from these two stories about covering the sins of others?
6. (a) What should we do when someone is in sin, according to Leviticus 19:17 and Matthew 18:15-20? (b) What should we do if they don't repent, according to the Matthew passage, and 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 and 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14, 15? (c) How does this reconcile with what Peter says in 1 Peter 4:8, that "love will cover a multitude of sins"?
7. (a) Why is church discipline (Matthew 18:15-20) a loving thing to do? (b) Why do you think most churches do not practice this command from God?
8. Examine your prayer life this week and answer the following questions: (a) Do you pray from a sense of duty or are you compelled to pray? (b) Do you pray infrequently or briefly? (c) Do your prayers center on your needs or the needs of others? (d) Do your prayers center mainly on spiritual matters or earthly concerns?
9. Look over your answers from question three, and then write a prayer request on how you might better "occupy your time till He comes."

1. (a) Read Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:11-13; and 1 Peter 4:9-11. List the spiritual gifts you find mentioned in these three passages. (b) Looking over the list, define as many of these as you can, either by what you know or by what you can research.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 4:9.
3. (a) Why are spiritual gifts given, according to Ephesians 4:12 and 1 Peter 4:11? (b) According to 1 Corinthians 12:11 who gives these gifts to us? (c) Do we all have the same gift(s), according to Romans 12:4 and 1 Corinthians 12:4 (d) What does 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 say regarding the attitude that should be present in us when using our gifts?
4. Read Matthew 25:14-30. (a) What can you learn from this parable regarding the seriousness of not using the gifts God has given to you? (b) What other observations do you see in the parable regarding talents? Write down as many as you can. (Examples: 1. God gives one to some, many to others-verse 15. 2. Fear keeps us from using what God has given us-verse 25.)
5. (a) Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? If so, what are they? (b) How are you using them for the Lord? (c) How are you refining them? For example, if you have the gift of teaching, are you learning and growing and sharpening that gift for God's glory? If you have the gift of mercy, are you looking for individuals to show mercy to, as well as thinking of creative ideas in how to be merciful? (d) How can you encourage others to use their gifts for the Lord?
6. (a) What attitude should accompany our hospitality, according to 1 Peter 4:9? (b) Who is commanded to be hospitable, according to Romans 12:13 (see verse 1); 1 Timothy 3:2; 5:9, 10; and Titus 1:7, 8? (c) According to Matthew 25:31-46 and Hebrews 13:1, 2, what are some reasons you should want to be hospitable?
7. What are some practical tips you have learned that help you to simplify and to enjoy having people in your home?
8. After prayerfully considering this lesson, how might we pray for you regarding spiritual gifts or hospitality? Please write down your request.

**** FOR A RICH BLESSING THIS WEEK: READ OVER THESE BEAUTIFUL DOXOLOGIES (perhaps a few each day) AND WORSHIP THE LORD!** Rom. 9:4, 5; 11:33-36; 16:27; Gal. 1:4, 5; Eph. 3:20, 21; Phil 4:20; 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:16; 2 Tim. 4:18; Heb. 13:20, 21; 1 Pet., 4:11; 5:11; 2 Pet. 3:18; Jude 24, 25; Rev. 1:6; 5:13; 7:12.

What to Do in the Furnace, Part 1

1. (a) As you read 1 Peter chapter four, which themes do you discover that Peter has already written about in the previous three chapters? (b) Why do you think he repeats these themes?

2. Memorize 1 Peter 4:12.

3. (a) Who comes to your mind as a biblical example of someone who suffered for Christ? (b) What do you learn from his/her example about how to go through suffering?

4. Peter writes of suffering for the name of Christ in 1 Peter 4:14. (a) What types of suffering for Christ are mentioned in Matthew 19:29; Acts 5:40, 41; Acts 21:13, and Revelation 20:4? (b) How do these compare to your present sufferings?

5. (a) What was Paul's desire in Philippians 3:10, 11? (b) Why did he desire this? (c) Is this your desire? (d) What does Paul say about suffering in Philippians 1:29? (e) Do you view suffering as a gift?

6. In their epistles, Peter and Paul both mention rejoicing in our sufferings (1 Peter 4:13 and Colossians 1:24). (a) What are the reasons they give for rejoicing? (b) What do you think Paul meant when he wrote, "fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church."

7. According to Matthew 5:11, 12; Acts 5:41; 16:25-33; Romans 5:3-5; 2 Corinthians 4:17; 12:9, 10; James 1:2-4, what are some other biblical reasons we should rejoice in our sufferings?

8. Observe your responses this week to trials that come your way. (a) How did you respond? (b) Were you surprised by your trials or by your reaction to them? (c) Did you respond with an attitude of joy? (d) What did you learn about yourself and your attitude towards life's difficulties?

9. What is difficult for you during a trial? Is it your attitude? Your endurance? Is it something else? Put your need in the form of a prayer request.

What to Do in the Furnace, Part 2

1. Read 1 Peter chapter four and summarize it in three sentences or less.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 4:17.
3. What things do you see that are similar in 1 Peter 4:17-19 and Romans 2:1-10?
4. (a) Peter writes in 1 Peter 4:17 that “For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God.” According to what you read in the following verses what would you say Peter is referring to? Isaiah 10:12; Jeremiah 25:29; Ezekiel 9; Amos 3. (b) Why does God’s judgment first begin with God’s own people according to these verses?
5. (a) Read 1 Peter 4:18 and then read Genesis 18:16-19:29 to better understand the meaning of what Peter is saying here in 1 Peter 4:18. Who were the righteous that were scarcely saved in this story? (b) What happened to the ungodly and the sinner in this story? (c) How does this story also help you to understand 1 Peter 4:17?
6. (a) Peter encourages his readers to commit the keeping of their souls to their faithful Creator. What else should we commit to Him according to Job 5:8; Psalm 37:5; Proverbs 16:3; 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 2:23? (b) Do you commit these things to Him? (c) Why is it difficult at times to commit our ways to God?
7. (a) Why do you think Peter refers to God as a “faithful Creator” in 4:19? (b) Does this have any special significance to his readers? (c) To you?
8. Recall a time when you suffered for doing something wrong. Recall a time when you suffered for being a Christian. What was the difference between the two, in the lessons that you learned?
9. (a) Are you suffering because you are a Christian? (b) What is your attitude? Are you rejoicing? Are you unashamed? Are you committing your soul to Him? (c) Write down a prayer request.

What Does a Good Pastor Look Like?

1. Read 1 Peter 5:1-4 making note of the qualities that should be present in an elder.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 5: 2-3.
3. (a) What other qualities are to be present in elders or deacons according to 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9? (b) Which of these qualities are the same as what Peter mentions in 1 Peter 5:1-4? (c) Why is it essential that churches choose their leaders based on these qualities? (d) Does your church choose elders based on these qualities?
4. (a) What were the shepherds guilty of in Ezekiel 34:1-3? (b) What “tending” of the flock were they negligent in according to Ezekiel 34:4? (c) As a result, what happened to the sheep according to Ezekiel 34:5-9? (d) What happened to the shepherds according to Ezekiel 34:10?
5. (a) Read the remaining portion of Ezekiel 34 (verses 11-31), and summarize what the Great Shepherd did for those scattered sheep. (b) How does this encourage you for yourself or others you know who perhaps are not in churches where there are faithful shepherds?
6. Peter says in 1 Peter 5:3 that elders are not to “lord” over their flock. Read Hebrews 13:17 and reconcile what you read with what Peter says in 1 Peter 5:3.
7. What are some ways that the shepherds (or leaders in the church) should set examples for the flock? (You might want to think of how Paul, Peter, or some of the other apostles set examples.)
8. Have you thanked God for the leaders in your church? Do you pray for the leaders in your church? Do you know the ones who shepherd your soul? How much time do you spend with them? How can you pray for the leaders in your church? Write a prayer of thanksgiving for your leaders, as well as a request for them.

Four Reasons to Avoid Pride

1. Read 1 Peter 5:1-7. (a) Who do you think the “younger” are in verse 5? (b) Who are the “elder”?
2. Memorize 1 Peter 5:7.
3. (a) What does the Lord think of pride according to Proverbs 6:16, 17 and 8:13? (b) What do these verses say about pride? See Proverbs 11:2; 16:18; 21:4, 24; 29:23; Luke 1:51, 52; 1 John 2:15-17. (c) How do these verses encourage you to avoid this awful sin?
4. (a) What does the Lord do for those who are humble according to Psalm 9:12; Isaiah 57:15; 66:2; Matthew 18:4; 23:12; James 4:6, 10. (b) How do you think people can “humble themselves”? (c) What is the most difficult thing about humbling yourself?
5. (a) Make three columns on the back of your paper. First column-Who was proud-Second column-what they were proud about- Third column-Result of their pride. (b) Look up the following verses and fill in the columns. After you finish, write a summary statement on what you learned about pride. Genesis 3; Isaiah 14:12-17; Daniel 4:28-37; Acts 12:20-23.
6. (a) Who do you see casting their cares on the Lord, and what was the result according to 1 Samuel 1:9-19; 1 Samuel 30:1-20; 2 Chronicles 20:1-25? (b) Recall a time you cast your care on the Lord. What was the result?
7. Putting yourself in the shoes of these suffering saints that Peter is writing to, what would be some of their cares that they would need to cast on Him?
8. (a) How would you define pride? (b) Recall a time when you knew God was resisting you because of your pride. What did you learn during that time that you could pass on to others? (c) How did He break your pride?
9. (a) What are your “cares” this day? (b) Are you casting them upon the Lord? (c) How may we pray for you? Please put your need in a prayer request.

A Hopeful End

1. Read all of 1 Peter and then answer the following questions. (a) What themes do you see repeated in 1 Peter? (b) If you were to give 1 Peter a title, what would it be?

2. Memorize 1 Peter 5:10-11.

3. Blow the dust off your first week's homework, and look back at question one. (a) Have you grown in your understanding of the verses that you indicated then that you did not understand? (b) What knowledge have you gained from these verses?

4. Summarize 1 Peter chapter five in three sentences or less.

5. (a) List all the things Peter has admonished them to do to "one another" according to 1 Peter 1:22; 3:8; 4:9; 4:10; 5:5; 5:14. (b) Why would these commands be especially important in light of their suffering? (c) Are these the things that you are currently doing for the brethren?

6. (a) What do you learn about Silvanus from 1 Peter 5:12? (b) What do the following references in Scripture say about Him? See 2 Corinthians 1:19; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1. (Also skim Acts chapter 15:40 through chapter 18:5 where Silvanus is called Silas to see what else is said about him.)

7. (a) What does Peter say about Mark in 1 Peter 5:13? (b) What do you learn about him from the following verses, Acts 12:12; 12:25; 15:36-41; Colossians 4:10; 2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 23, 24?

8. In looking over #5, what area do you need to grow in? Write down your prayer request to share.