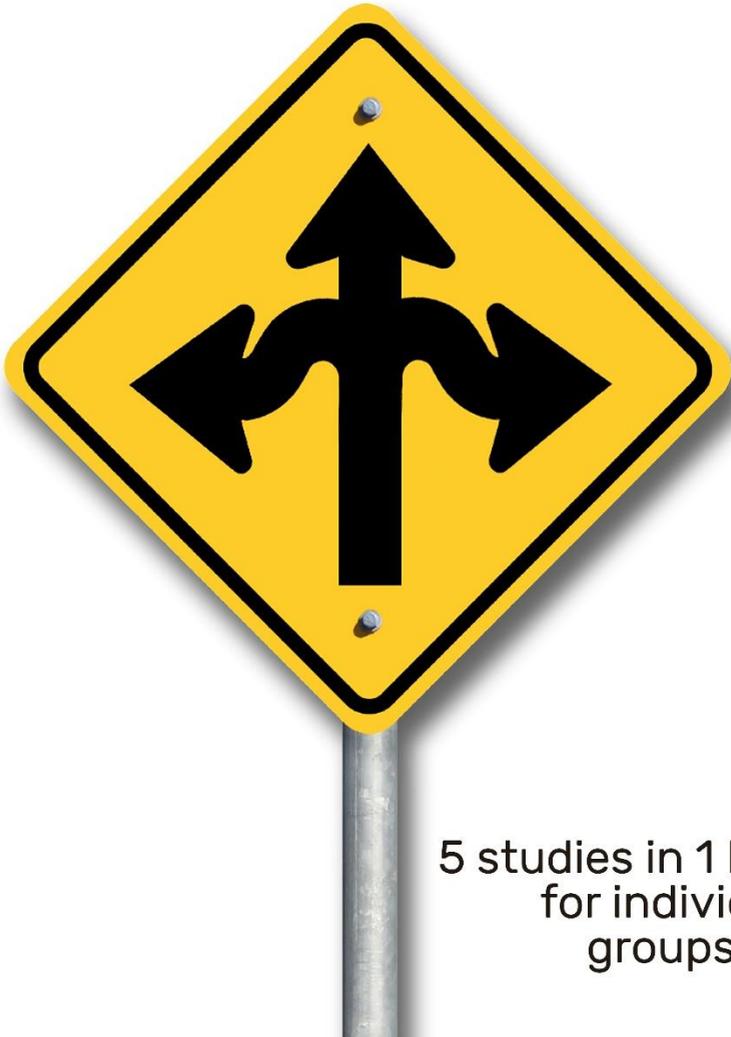


A Stranger's Guide to Life



5 studies in 1 Peter
for individuals
groups & 1:1

Introduction

To kick off 2019, our Bible Study Groups will be going through the book of 1 Peter. This letter encourages readers to know and understand the difference that God has made in our lives – we are given a new identity in Christ! Each study explores what the letter teaches us about living in light of this new identity.

*But you are a chosen people,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of
him who called you out of darkness
into his wonderful light.
Once you were not a people,
but now you are the people of God;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.*

1 Peter 2:9-10

This series of Bible studies have been written using what's known as The COMA Method.

Context – what are we reading and how does it fit with other things around it?

Observation – What are the main events, people and content?

Meaning – from what we have observed what is the author trying to say?

Application – as we reflect on the passage, what relevance does it have on our lives?

This method simply teaches us how to read our Bibles well, asking good questions, as we seek to understand it clearly and thoroughly.

To find more information about how you can use the COMA method on all books of the Bible, go to:

<https://mytmb.me/comamethod>

The people and things we are praying for:

One of the key components of our Bible Study Groups is a commitment to pray for one another and praying for those of our friends who we would love to see come to know Christ. To that end, use this page to write down those things you are praying for.

Live as chosen people

1 Peter 1:1-2:10

Context

Who is writing this letter?

Who is the letter written to and what can you learn about them?

If you were an original recipient of the letter, what would be your reaction so far?

Observation

What are the things that the author praises God for?

What is the reason for Peter to write to the “scattered elect” (ref. v1)?

Meaning

In understanding salvation, what does this passage teach you about the work of the Trinity?

How does this opening section of the letter help you understand the uniqueness of Christ's death on the cross?

Application

What does Christ's death on the cross mean for us today?

How does this passage change the way you live?

From 1 Peter 1:13-2:10, Peter writes to give specific encouragement to the receivers of this letter to live in light of Christ and His return. He calls for obedience and holiness and for each person to love the other deeply. In 1 Peter 2:9-10, he

reminds the readers of who are they are in Christ: that they are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession. Peter so clearly lays out their now reality as God's people before he goes on to instruct them specifically on how they are to live in contrast to the world.

Pray for each other.

Foreigners and exiles

I Peter 2:11-3:7

Context

What words are used to describe people who are believers?

What does it mean for someone to live in this way?

What is the connection of this part of the letter to the opening section of the letter?

Observation & Meaning

Before Peter goes into specific instructions, how is Peter encouraging people to live? What is the motivation?

Reference	Who are the instructions to?	What are the instructions?	What is the reason for the instruction?
2:13 - 17			

2:18 - 25			
3:1 - 6			
3:7			

In your own words, how would you summarise the reason for which Peter has given for believers to obey these instructions?

Application

Peter's instructions appear to be for specific groups of people or even outdated in our present day and age. Why do we need to listen to what is written to these instructions?

What would it look like if everything you did at work, home, or school pointed people to Christ?

How would your life be different?

Pray for each other.

Live to suffer for Christ

1 Peter 3:8-22

Context

Why do you think Peter is talking about suffering in this letter?

What section precedes this one?

Observation

According to Peter, how should we feel if we suffer for doing what is right?

We are told not to “fear their threats and be frightened” (v14).

What are we asked to do instead?

What is the reason that we should answer with gentleness and respect?

Meaning

Why should Christians expect to suffer?

How is Christ's suffering different to suffering that we might experience?

What do you think it means that Jesus "made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits"? (v19)

Does God only love us if we do good? (v10-12)

Application

What does it mean for us to "suffer for what is right"? What do you think we might face on campus that might cause us to fear or be frightened of?

How can we revere Christ as Lord in our lives?

Pray for each other.

Live to exalt Christ

1 Peter 4:1-19

Context

What was the main idea that Peter talked about last week? (1 Peter 3:8-22)

Chapter 4 starts with "Therefore,". What does this tell you about how it is related to the section before?

Observation

What had Peter's readers previously been like before they came to Christ?

How does Peter urge them to act as Christians?

Meaning

Are we magically free of sin as soon as we suffer? Why/Why not?

What does "love covers over a multitude of sins" mean?

What do you think it means for Christians to use their gifts to serve others?

Why should the recipients of this letter not be surprised at the "fiery ordeal" that has come on them? (v12)

What does Peter suggest they do instead?

Application

How can we show love to others in our church?

How can we use our gifts to serve others? Think specifically of how those around you are gifted and how those gifts can be used for the glory of God.

Pray for each other.

Live focused on His glory

1 Peter 5:1-14

Context

Who are Peter's instructions to in the letter up to this point?

Who is Peter talking to in chapter 5?

Observation

What will the elders share with Christ?

What about those who aren't elders?

Meaning

Why do you think that Peter mentions the end goal while he's talking to this group of "scattered exiles" (ref. 1:1)?

What kind of people do leaders of the Church need to be?

How should the rest of the church act under leaders and under God?

Is this something you would say is characteristic of the Church today?

How is resisting the devil (v9) related to showing humility to leaders (v5)?

Application

Do church leaders reflect Peter's description?

Do we submit ourselves to leaders as suggested by Peter?

Do focusing on the "eternal glory of Christ" will help you in this? Why/why not?

How do we actually focus on Christ's glory in our lives?

Pray for each other.



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