

Reading 1 Peter in 2020

University Baptist Church – Online Bible Study

Session 11: June 28, 2020

To prepare: This Sunday morning at 9:45, we conclude our Sunday Bible Study series in 1 Peter. Our focus will be 1 Peter 5, and we will also spend time tying up our series as a whole. As you prepare for our session, we invite you to read through 1 Peter—the entire book if you can, and especially the fifth chapter. In what ways does this chapter speak to the life of the church today? How does this passage wrap up the letter, bringing together the themes we have been exploring the past two months?

Sunday morning session outline:

Introduction – (Themes: God, Christ, Suffering, Baptism, & Life in Exile)

Read 1 Peter 5

5:1-5 “tend the flock that is in your charge”

- What image of church leadership does this passage describe?
- What temptations come with positions of authority and leadership? What instruction does this passage give leaders to counter those temptations?
- Verse 5 instructs younger people to accept the authority of elders, yet our society does not always emphasize this. What keeps us from listening to our elders? What is gained when we do?

5:6-11 “steadfast in your faith”

- Why is humility important in the Christian life?
- Verse 6 describes being exalted “in due time,” and verse 10 describes suffering “for a little while.” What is the role of patience in the Christian life?
- How do the instructions to discipline oneself, resist temptation, and remain steadfast (verses 8-9) connect with what we have read earlier in the letter (e.g., life in exile)?

5:12-14 “Greet one another with a kiss of love”

- In the closing verses of this letter, we have a glimpse of the support and encouragement of leaders and churches at the time it was written. For us today, how do we find our support in one another? How does our relationship with sister churches deepen and sustain our ministry?
- This letter was written from a distance. How do we encourage one another from a distance during this pandemic time when we cannot be together?

Wrapping Up

- This is the final session in our series on 1 Peter. What lessons do you take with you from this book?
- How does our time in this book deepen your understanding of life in “exile,” of suffering in the Christian life, of God and Christ, or of how to live an ethical life in our specific context?