

**LIVING IN  
EXILE**

O N E P E T E R

## OVERVIEW – ONE PETER

### FROM – THE AUTHOR?

The opening words of this letter make it clear as to who wrote this letter: *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.*' This is the same as most of the letters in the New Testament; authors like Paul, James, John and Jude. However, there are some who suggest the letter was written after Peter's death pseudonymously.<sup>1</sup> There has been evidence cited to challenge Peter's authorship and evidence to defend it. For our studies and this series we will identify the apostle Peter as the author; there is evidence both within and outside the letter that points toward this conclusion.

Peter was called and set apart by Jesus to be an apostle, who followed Jesus, walked and talked and at times misunderstood him. Peter, the impulsive, headstrong, more than once a failure who felt he could instruct and at times correct Jesus, is a man we can identify with so well! He was a man who had to learn how to live this new life of following Jesus, the life of a Christian, just like any other. When this is remembered, as we read and reflect on 1 Peter, the lessons for Christian life can be drawn out and then applied to our lives. Peter was also a wonderful leader, an incredible example of a man Jesus had called and continued to change, transforming him by his grace. 1 Peter will speak of suffering as part of following Christ, suffering like Christ did, rejected by the world in which we live like aliens and strangers. Peter suffered; the book of Acts tells of the times he was imprisoned and beaten (Acts 4.1-4; 5.17-41; 12.1-5) and it is traditionally held that Peter was crucified, upside down, by request, since he believed himself unworthy to die as his saviour had died.

Finally, as an apostle, Peter writes through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, which means these are God's words. This letter was written in a particular time and place to a particular set of people (as we will see in a moment, this is

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<sup>1</sup> It is believed by some that 1 Peter emerged from another author writing under the name of Peter from the Petrine group in Rome who sought to accurately represent the thoughts of the apostle Peter.

important in establishing meaning) but because these words are God's words they are also timeless and can be applied to us; God's people in God's world, today.

## TO – THE RECIPIENTS

Peter addresses his letter to Christians, 'God's elect...'. Calling them Christians is a simple way to express Peter's description in v.1-2. We will need to look closely at how he describes the recipients in our first week.

Peter also calls them 'aliens and strangers in the world' (2.11), 'scattered' and living in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia (1.1), an area we now know as Turkey. This was a vast geographical area with small cities. Within this region a diverse set of people lived, practiced many religions and spoke several languages.

It could be that Peter writes to Jews and other Christians who have fled their homes during the Diaspora or other times of Roman colonization, or he addresses believers who had heard the gospel from pilgrims who were in Jerusalem during Pentecost. The use of 'aliens and strangers' and 'scattered' to describe these people - although possibly referring to how they came to be where they are - is also an apt description of all Christians. No matter a Christian's geographical location, having been converted in a very real spiritual sense, they have become aliens to this world. So Peter uses this description as a 'spiritual metaphor'. Yet, it is also probable that Peter writes to a people who have been scattered due to Roman colonization, both Jews and Gentiles. He writes to them sharing a connection to Rome and he writes to them encouraging them as they live in unbelieving and pagan lands where people are hostile to the gospel. So how do they live in this place? How do they relate to one another? How do they relate to those around them? How do they live as exiles?

The believers were suffering grief in various kinds of trials (1.6) as a result of their faith. Their Christian faith was being questioned and ridiculed; they were socially and potentially financially at risk. He writes to a people in a context of what we could call religious pluralism, or tolerance diversity. Cultural trends not as distant to ours as the near-2000 years might make you think. What this all looked like exactly, we can't say, but Peter's purpose in writing (as we will note

shortly) and the content of his letter give insight into this situation. It is clear the recipients are Christians and in the minority, suffering, being questioned and so they too were questioning.

## **ONE PETER – THE LETTER ITSELF:**

### **WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT? WHY WAS IT WRITTEN?**

Peter helpfully gives us some insight as he concludes his letter; *this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it!* (5.12) It would appear that those he wrote to were in situations causing doubt, or maybe confusion about God's work in their lives. So he reminds them of the truth, the truth of whom they are by the grace of God, so that they might 'stand fast!' Don't abandon your God, don't be tempted to abandon Him, don't sway or slide back, but know Christian faith is real, and your God is present. Peter calls all those that read this letter to be *who they are in* society, to live as the aliens they are in the world they have been scattered. To live with different values, priorities, commitments and allegiances to their neighbours because they are God's elect, they are Christians.

### **SO, HOW DOES IT RELATE TO US?**

If we've just read the previous... shouldn't be too difficult to begin to think about how we might relate 1 Peter to our lives. If we call ourselves Christians we must also call ourselves exiles. We must expect to suffer shame for doing good, suffer as Christ did knowing that he has won the victory and we will share also in his glory for all eternity! Yet there is a threat involved, a threat that we might not stand the test.

It is true that we don't suffer in an extreme sense like other Christians did in Peter's day and do today. But we too can be viewed as a strange, weird, backward bunch and so suffer shame, discrimination, mockery, rumors, harassment, rejection and it wouldn't be too 'surprising' (to quote Peter) if we someday soon suffer in a greater sense. 1 Peter reminds us that we should suffer not because of sin but because we are following Jesus. 1 Peter reminds us to live as exiles with an inheritance that is sure, a hope that will never fade and a gracious God who empowers us to reach the end!

# SERMON SERIES: JULY 16 – SEPT 10

**WK 1 – 16/07/17 – I PETER 1.1-9**

THE GLORIOUS AND INEXPRESSIBLE JOY OF BEING GOD'S EXILE

**WK 2 – 23/07/17 – I PETER 1.10-25**

BE PREPARED TO LIVE AS GOD'S EXILE; HOLY, FAITHFUL, RICHLY BOUGHT

**WK 3 – 30/07/17 – I PETER 2.1-10**

EXILES: REBORN & REBUILT TO DECLARE PRAISE

**WK 4 – 06/08/17 – I PETER 2.11-25**

EXILES: LIVING IN SOCIETY AND LIVING WITH INJUSTICE

**WK 5 – 13/08/17 – WEEK OFF – ONE PETER – CAMERON ECCELSTON, BWA**

PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

**WK 6 – 20/08/17 – I PETER 3.1-7**

EXILES: LIVING IN THE HOME

**WK 7 – 27/08/17 – I PETER 3.8-22**

EXILES: LIVING WITH SUFFERING KNOWING CHRIST'S VICTORY

**WK 8 – 03/09/17 – I PETER 4.1-19**

EXILES: LIVE KNOWING THE END IS NEAR, BUT NOT YET HERE

**WK 9 – 10/09/17 – I PETER 5.1-14**

EXILES: PURSUE SOLIDARITY IN VIEW OF SUFFERING

# THE GLORIOUS & INEXPRESSIBLE JOY OF BEING GOD'S EXILE

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 1

- i. Having read the first chapter, look again at the opening verses. What do you think this letter will be about? Write down the themes that might come up

Today we will focus on the author.

- ii. Who is the author and how does he introduce himself?
- iii. If you haven't already, read over the 1 Peter introduction material. But, before that, what do you know about Peter's life?
- iv. Define apostle. Why do you believe Peter would introduce himself this way? If you are unsure of the definition we've a little explanation below.

An apostle was personally called by Jesus and entrusted with the special ministry of being one of His authoritative messengers, establishing churches and explaining the good news of the gospel. This is why we read this letter differently to any random thing. These words are God's words written to His people, through His apostle.

*Pray thanking God for Peter, for his calling, his life and ministry of faithfulness. Thank God that we can be transformed like Peter. But, ask that we might remember, as we read this letter, that these are God's words!*

## **TUESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 1**

Peter begins his letter in the same way most ancient letters were written. He introduces himself, addresses the recipients and then has a greeting. However, this introduction is rich with theology starting with the way he describes the recipients.

- i. What do you find interesting about this letter introduction? Does it read like a normal letter? Explain the similarities and differences you notice
  
- ii. How does Peter address the recipients? What does he call them?
  
- iii. Explain what you think the following phrases mean. Most are explained in the prayer section, however, see what *you* come up with initially:
  - God's elect
  - Strangers in the world or aliens
  - Scattered
  - Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God
  - Sanctifying work of the Spirit
  - For obedience
  - For the sprinkling of blood

- iv. Given this is how believers are described, what does this teach you about what it means to be a Christian?

This is a weighty and heavily theological introduction. If you had to sum up in a few words *who* Peter is writing to, how would you? Try using the introduction material to help you.

*Pray remember how it is that Christians can be addressed. These opening verses are packed with significant themes that Peter will continue to unpack throughout his letter. This whole introduction is designed to illicit joy and praise. Use the phrases to thank God that you too can be described this way*

**God's elect** – Peter calls them God's chosen people, like Old Testament Israel; His special people chosen by his grace.

**Strangers in the world** – Believers are exiles, strangers or aliens because this world is not our homeland.

**Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God** – Chosen by God's eternal plan, just as Christ was 'chosen before the creation of the world' (1 Pet. 1.20) so also believers are chosen and saved by God's sovereign initiative.

**Sanctifying work of the Spirit** – the Spirit the source of our sanctification, through who we are initially set apart and then grown in holiness.

**For obedience** – God saves us for obedience; faith and faithfulness (obedience) are always linked. The former fueling the later

**For the sprinkling of blood** – The people of Israel entered into the covenant as they pledged obedience and were sprinkled with blood (Exod 24.5-6). Believers, likewise, obey the gospel and are sprinkled with Christ's blood; his cleansing sacrifice.



**WEDNESDAY****Read 1 Peter 1.1-9**

Peter shifts the focus immediately to the end. Much of 1 Peter has the ‘end time inheritance’ in view. Peter’s ethical instructions are grounded in the glories and implications of salvation, that there is an inheritance a final hope that has been gifted and kept for believers by God.

- i. Look closely at verses 3-5, how would you describe the tone? What is Peter starting his letter with?
- ii. Why does Peter say God is to be praised and how does this description ensure that God and God alone can take the credit and ultimately the praise?
- iii. Explain Peter’s description of:
  - Hope
  - Inheritance
  - Salvation
- iv. How does v.5 give the believer great certainty that they will receive this ‘inheritance’?

The end of v.5 shifts our focus on the end, the future, the final day where believers receive their inheritance in future glory. God’s power guards us, shields us and so keeps us from sin and unbelief that we might have certainty for the future. The reason for our salvation is grounded in God’s gift!

*Praise God for the inheritance that is kept for you, not by you. Ask that you might continue to trust Him, through and by his power so that you might be revealed with all the saints.*

## **THURSDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 1.1-9**

Much of 1 Peter deals with suffering and how believers can respond with joy, love and faithfulness because sufferings test the genuineness of faith and result in praise, glory and honour.

- i. How does the tone of ‘praise’ continue in v.6?
- ii. The way Peter draws attention to their suffering ensures he maintains God’s will. Why would it be part of God’s plan that Christians suffer?
- iii. Peter appears to answer our previous question in v.7. How?
- iv. What does the comparison and contrast to gold show faith to be?

Peter will have much more to say about suffering. Here, as he will elsewhere, he sets it within God’s plans and purposes for His people and for His glory.

*Read 1 Peter 4.12-19. We will look more closely at this passage in a few weeks. For now, focus on v.19 and ask that you might commit yourself to the faithful creator. Pray for those who suffer ‘all kinds of trials’, particularly those who are risk of losing their lives for following Christ. Ask that they might do likewise. Pray using the tone of Peter’s introduction, a tone of rejoice and praise because of the hope of future glory.*

**FRIDAY****Read 1 Peter 1.1-9**

- i. How is Peter commending the readers in v.8?
  
- ii. When will they ‘see Jesus’ and how does Peter’s introduction remind them of that certainty, that they *will* see Jesus?
  
- iii. What is a Christian’s present life filled with because of their hope?  
 Peter has fixed the love and joy of believers in the hope of eschatological salvation; the future certain hope. This is what characterizes a Christian, love and joy, incredible, considering he writes to people who suffer. If Peter’s readers haven’t seen him, that is Jesus, and rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory how much more when they do!?
  
- iv. What does it look like to enjoy Jesus and be full of joy at the certainty of seeing him face to face and enjoying him forever?
  
- v. How does Peter keep the perspective right in v.9? How does he maintain a future focus?

*Thank God for the little taste of heaven with have, here and now by being united with Jesus through faith. Ask that you might grow in your love for Christ even though you don’t see him. And, that you would long for the day where you do!*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 1:1-9

**THE GLORIOUS & INEXPRESSIBLE JOY OF BEING GOD'S EXILE**

## WEEK 2 - 1 Peter 2:10-25

# BE PREPARED TO LIVE AS GOD'S EXILE: HOLY, FAITHFUL, AND RICHLY BOUGHT

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 1:10-12

If you've ever prepared for an exam you probably remember the feeling of wanting to know what you were going to be asked. But this secret was kept from you. Peter expresses the preciousness of the gospel by pointing to the prophets and angels who eagerly wanted to know when Christ would suffer and die for our sin.

- i. What do you think Peter means when he says that the prophets 'searched intently and with the greatest care'?
- ii. Why would Peter tell his readers about this act of the prophets?
- iii. Jesus' suffering (v11) is mostly a reference to his crucifixion, but to what does the word 'glories' refer? Take a look at Luke 24:25-26.
- iv. The Old Testament prophecies weren't just *about* those who would be saved by Jesus, they were written *for* them. How does it make you feel knowing that Peter believes these prophecies about Jesus were written for *you*?

## **NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

*The sufferings and glories of Jesus are the central events of all of history. Prophets and even angels longed to look into these events, and we continually look back and thank God for them.*

*Pray that you will constantly remember the suffering and glorification of Jesus Christ throughout the week.*

## **TUESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 1:13-16**

The prophets and angels who looked forward to salvation on the horizon longed to understand the things of Christ. So also Christians, who have salvation, should long to live in hope of Jesus' future coming.

- i. Peter calls for Christians to have minds that are 'alert and fully sober'. What do you think he means by this?
- ii. What should Christians set their minds on? What does this mean?
- iii. Peter reminds these believers that they must give up their previous evil desires. How does this speak to you?
- iv. What are some of the struggles you face because of the way you used to live? Be honest about this - Peter encourages you to enjoy the full advantages of Christ's salvation.

*Our minds are to be set on the hope of a future event: the second coming of Jesus (v13). Here, doctrine meets practical living. Our minds must be guarded by right thinking so we can live as God wants until Jesus returns. Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you to mature so you may live a life of holiness to the one who set you free.*

**WEDNESDAY****Read 1 Peter 1:17-19**

A confident driver has respect for the car, the road, and other drivers. A healthy fear of causing an accident brings about careful driving. Similarly, a Christian, confident in his ever-secure salvation, lives out his life in full knowledge of God who takes sin very seriously.

- i. What do you think Peter means by ‘reverent fear’? Is it terror? Is it respect? Or is it something else?
  
- ii. What’s the reason Peter gives that we should live our lives in reverent fear?
  
- iii. Blood is central to life. Jesus poured out his life for the elect. How *does* this affect your daily living? How *should* it affect your daily living?

*Pray that you will have confidence in your salvation because of the mercy God has shown to you (v3): it’s not based on anything good you’ve done. Pray also that you will make good choices as you live out the grace and mercy given you.*

**THURSDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 1:20-21**

Peter has already made the point that prophets and angels longed to understand the salvation brought by Christ. Now he presses the truth of God's foreknowledge. The salvation work of Jesus was God's *Plan A* all along. Your salvation is not an afterthought. It's God's eternal plan for your sake.

- i. The idea that Jesus was 'chosen' is more about God's plans before creation. God revealed his plans at the right time. What does this tell you about God's sovereignty?
- ii. A faith in Christ is also a faith in God. How does verse 21 make this clearer?
- iii. If our faith and hope is in God, what does this mean as we live in *this* world?

*Praise God that he thought of you before the creation of the world. Your salvation is for the glory of God. You have an inheritance in heaven which he keeps for you. Live out your life in thanksgiving to the God who loves you!*



**FRIDAY****Read 1 Peter 1:22-25**

Peter now moves to the ‘practical business’ of a Christian’s salvation. It’s not all about mere head-knowledge. For Peter, cultivating a deep, heartfelt, sincere love is the natural outworking of being one of God’s children.

- i. Why should Christians love other Christians?
- ii. Peter contrasts people - who are withering away (v24) - with the word of the Lord which endures forever (v25). How will people wither? How does the word of God endure?
- iii. What is ‘the word of the Lord’? Consider what vv10-11 have to say.
- iv. What are some practical ways you could show more love to fellow believers?

*Pray that you will be able to have a deeper love for others in your church. Consider the love Christ had for his church as you pray this prayer.*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 1:10-25

**BE PREPARED TO LIVE AS GOD'S EXILE:  
HOLY, FAITHFUL, AND RICHLY BOUGHT**

## WEEK 3 – 1 Peter 2:1-10

# EXILES: REBORN & REBUILT TO DECLARE PRAISE

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 2:1-10

What does it look like to live as Christ wants us to live? Peter, having encouraged the believers to be holy and loving, now provides practical advice.

- i. Peter begins with the word therefore. To what does this word refer? Take a look at 1:22-25.
- ii. What is the connection between ‘being born again’ and ‘ridding yourself’ of the negative qualities listed in 2:1?
- iii. Paul is writing to a community of believers. What impact would malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander have on such a community?
- iv. Peter uses the analogy of a baby craving milk to remind us that Christians are entirely dependent upon God for nourishment and growth. What is the Christian’s milk?

*Consider which parts of your character and behaviour need to change so you may be more like Christ.*

*Pray that you will exchange these negative aspects of yourself for the sake of the word of God which both makes us alive and lives within us.*

**TUESDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 2:4-5**

The church is a wonderful community of people, but with what Peter says today would think he was talking about a building.

- i. What does it mean to call Jesus a 'living stone'? Read Acts 4:10-11.
- ii. Staying in Acts 4, what has now happened to this 'rejected stone'?
- iii. Why does Peter use the analogy of a house in 1 Peter 2:5? Why does this have to do with being in a community of believers?
- iv. What happens to a house if it has weak stones in its walls? How does this relate to verse one of this chapter?

*The community of Christ is made up of individuals. The health of the community depends on the health of its individuals. What obligation do you have toward Christ? What obligation do have toward your brothers and sisters in your Christian community?.*

**WEDNESDAY****Read 1 Peter 2:6-8**

Drawing on the Old Testament Peter inspires the believers to endure all hardships. As they do so, they draw hope from knowing that they too suffer for the truth just as Peter had witnessed Christ suffer.

- i. Zion is the city of Jerusalem. Who is the *stone* in Zion? What does this stone mean to the Israelites?
- ii. How may someone benefit from this stone?
- iii. Not everyone believes the word of God. Does unbelief change the plans of God? Consider the second half of verse 7.
- iv. In verse 8 Peter makes a provocative claim. He says that people stumble because they ‘disobey the message’, but they were also destined for this disobedience. What questions does this raise for you?

*Jesus Christ is the sure foundation for the people of God. But for others he is merely a stumbling block. Our first instinct may be to abandon those who have rejected Christ. But Peter is about to charge us to a radical task: To show goodness to the enemies of God to the point of persecution and death.*

*Pray that you may be secure in the knowledge of Jesus’ salvation so you may be able to demonstrate his gracious love to others through your good deeds.*

## THURSDAY

### Read 1 Peter 2: 9-10

Peter now calls on the chosen people of God to live as though they have been shown mercy, not as if they deserve to be in relationship with God.

This is a radical call which entails a counter-cultural lifestyle...

- i. Peter calls the Christians in Asia Minor 'a chosen people'. What do you think this means? Refer back to the first week, has your answer developed/changed?
- ii. Drawing from Exodus 19 Peter applies the promise that Israel shall be 'a kingdom of priests' and 'a holy nation'. What does it mean to be a priest and holy?
- iii. Peter says that being made a people of God is to receive mercy (1 Peter 2:10). What does it mean to you to have received mercy?

*Peter is balancing two truths: That Christians are believers in the promises of God, and that they are indebted to a God who has chosen them. What do these truths mean to you? What do they mean when you consider non-believers? How should you feel and act toward non-believers?*

*Having answered these prayers pray that your will and action would align with what you have come to.*

**FRIDAY****Read 1 Peter 2:1-10**

Although we are a royal priesthood and a holy nation of God, we are also recipients of God's grace. So there is no boasting. Salvation belongs to our God (Rev 7:10). This undeserved grace is the reason why we rejoice in God through the Lord Jesus Christ as he sanctifies us by the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:2).

- i. There are some who argue that salvation is earned by good works. How might you use 1 Peter 2:1-10 in your response to such a claim?
- ii. We are called to be innocent and dependent upon God (v2). What would this look like for you?
- iii. What needs to change in your life to become more like Christ?

*Pray that you might live as one who is totally dependent on the word of God. Pray often and read the Bible so you may be nourished in the faith and grow in maturity.*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 2.1-10

# **EXILES: REBORN & REBUILT TO DECLARE PRAISE**



## WEEK 4 - 1 Peter 2:11-25

# EXILES: LIVING IN SOCIETY & LIVING WITH INJUSTICE

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 2:11-12

Peter knows that these Christians are treated as outsiders (v11, what we've been calling exiles) in their own communities. But far from asking them to reject this treatment, he calls them to embrace it. Peter reasons, 'if your behaviour is going to capture the attention of non-believers, let it be because you do so much good that they're astounded at your peaceful community!'

- i. What do you think Peter means by calling the believers 'foreigners' and 'exiles'?
- ii. Remembering last week's study, what 'sinful desires' do you think Peter has in mind here?
- iii. It seems that the 'pagans' (most likely non-Christian Gentiles) reviled Christians. Does such a negative impression of Christians exist today? If so, what are the problems non-Christians have with Christians?

- iv. How do you think we could respond to the negative perceptions toward Christians today? Consider v12.

*It's easy to push back in anger against non-Christians when they challenge or attack us. Peter reminds the believers that they must live such good lives that their accusations are silenced (v15). Prayerfully consider how you may improve your relationships with the non-Christians God has placed in your life, so they may glorify God (v12).*

*Ask that you will be able to exchange these negative aspects of yourself for the sake of the word of God which both makes us alive and lives within us.*

## **TUESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 2:12-15**

All earthly authorities are placed in their positions by God (Rom 13:1).

Their role is to balance the competing rights of their people so as to bring about the best possible society. When these authorities infringe upon God's lordship, Christians are expected to obey God and not the wayward authorities.

Peter's hope is that Christians, acknowledging God's lordship, should submit to earthly authorities, demonstrating a peaceful lifestyle which silences false accusations.

- i. What do you know about Roman leadership during this time? How did it treat Christians?<sup>2</sup>
- ii. What would be some of the difficulties in living out the command to submit to authorities?
- iii. Do you believe it's becoming easier or more difficult to submit to earthly authorities today? Why do you believe this?
- iv. Why should Christians submit to governing authorities in Australia? Does it really make any difference?

*Our God is Lord over all. He has appointed people to rule over us for our own benefit. How can we live in obedience to them in a way that brings glory to God?*

*Pray for wisdom and self control as you consider how your obedience to laws and authorities says something about your obedience to God.*

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<sup>2</sup> Although Christian persecution was present in the Roman provinces, it probably hadn't yet reached its bloodiest point at the time of Peter's writing.

## WEDNESDAY

### Read 1 Peter 2:16-17

There is a danger that as we obey earthly authorities we do so out of reluctant drudgery. We obey the laws because ‘we’ve been told to do it’. But Peter reminds the Christians in Asia Minor that they are to ‘live as free people’. This freedom means that they are able to do what is right out of a living love and hope in Christ. It is a freedom to show genuine, unforced kindness, love, and respect to everyone.

- i. What does it mean to be ‘free’ in a civic sense but ‘slave’ in a spiritual sense?
- ii. What are some of the dangers in thinking you’re spiritually ‘free’ to do what you desire?
- iii. Take a look at verse 17. What does it mean to:
  - show proper respect
  - love
  - fear
  - honour

*Being free in Ancient Rome meant you had some degree of social mobility. Peter considers civic freedoms to be commendable, but cautioned the believers against the immoral activity common among Roman citizens.*

*Pray that you will live an obedient moral life to God as you also seek to obey Australian laws.*

**THURSDAY****Read 1 Peter 2:18-20**

While it was easy to obey a ruler when you enjoy the benefits of freedom in Ancient Rome, it was harder to obey a ruler when as a slave you lacked any rights. Further, masters could mistreat their slaves in to the point of physical and even sexual abuse. Peter now pushes his call for submission to a point at which many of today's Christians object.

- i. According to Peter what is the godly response to harsh treatment as a slave? Why does he say this?
- ii. Why was this a difficult teaching for the ancients?
- iii. Why is this a difficult teaching today?
- iv. If you were writing this letter instead of Peter, what would you have said to the slaves in the church?
- v. How is it commendable before God to suffer for doing good?

*Suffering is not a detour in the Christian life. It is a means by which God is glorified in us and how we may imitate Christ. Although we may have wanted Peter to make an unequivocal condemnation of slavery, Peter has in mind something far more important. He desires believers to imitate Christ who suffered for the church.*

*Pray that you will have the courage and patience to endure the hardship you face as a Christian whenever you seek to do good.*

**FRIDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 2:21-25**

Jesus remained silent while he was accused on the day of his execution.

He valued God's declaration of his innocence more than his right to defend himself against the false claims of his accusers. In all of this Jesus was sinless and chose not to exercise his right to a defense. He knew he was sinless, and desired to glorify God (John 17:1).

- i. If the slaves in Ancient Rome had lawyers, how might they respond to Peter's argument for non-retaliation?
- ii. Verse 21 seems to go against our natural instincts. What does this tell you about our natural instincts?
- iii. Is there a time for Christians to respond to abuse and persecution? If so, how should it be done? Consider Jeremiah 11:18-23 and Revelation 6:9-11.
- iv. When do you see Christians experience abuse or persecution for the sake of Christ? What would Peter say to them?

*Peter has been calling us to be a distinct group of people who do good and keep peace. He offers his final reasoning by calling on the tradition of Jesus' submission during his trial and execution. Peter calls us to imitate Christ. Pray that you will have the strength to show love even to those who make your life more difficult. Pray also that your example may point them to Christ.*

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 2.11-25

# **EXILES: LIVING IN SOCIETY & LIVING WITH INJUSTICE**

## WEEK 5 – Prayer for Missionaries

It wasn't so long ago that we were praying for and giving to our May Missionaries of the Month. Each day this week take some time to thank God for the opportunity we have to partner with each of these initiatives and pray through some of their prayer requests.

Also, for each day of the week write a name of a person you would long to see be given new birth, to become a Christian.

### **MONDAY**

#### **Emily Woods – Burkina Faso MART:**

Pray for the team as they get ready to welcome girls to MART. Pray also for good ongoing relations with partner organisations. Ask for protection and care for the Street Girls and their children and that they would come to know Christ. Please also pray for Emily, that God might continue to sustain her but his grace.

**Name One** \_\_\_\_\_

### **TUESDAY**

#### **Kingston and Jennifer Arigo – PNG Christian Leaders Training College**

Pray for Kingston and Jennifer as they aim to be godly parents raising their two children. As Kingston studies ask that he continues to learn and apply all that he is taught. Pray also that the Training College will continue to produce leaders who are well-equipped so that the Church in PNG grows for God's glory.

**Name Two** \_\_\_\_\_



**WEDNESDAY**

**Bali Youth Centre**

Pray for wisdom and biblical training for national leaders; that God may continue to lead many to him through this ministry. Ask for the provision of finances to complete renovations/ maintenance and spiritual breakthroughs in the local Balinese Youth who hang out at the centre.

**Name Three** \_\_\_\_\_

**THURSDAY**

**David, Carol, Ben and Daniel Nix - BI People, Education Foundation**

Pray for the Agribusiness project especially that a government agreement will be signed soon. Pray for the new Aged Care initiative starting this month and for work visas for all involved. Pray for more friends to respond to the good news. Ben as he finishes school and transitions to university. Continued unity and support amongst the team. David and Carole as they learn the local language of the SI People which is different to the national language.

**Name Four** \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDAY**

**Andy and Wanda – SI People – Cafe Education**

Pray for a strong partnership team both prayerfully and financially. For protection physically, emotionally and spiritually. More team members willing to commit to serve this people group long term. That many more may come to know Jesus' love.

**Name Five** \_\_\_\_\_

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes –

# **CAMERON ECCELSTON, BWA**

# EXILES: LIVING IN THE HOME

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 3:1-6

Peter continues this section of the letter that the ESV Commentary calls “Testifying to the Gospel in the Social Order” (1 Peter 2:13-3:12) by addressing wives and husbands; Peter addresses life in the home. He starts with wives.

- i. How does v.1 draw from what Peter has said previously in 2.13? What was the purpose in the people’s ‘submission’ in chapter 2?

Peter is urging his readers to live a life that is respectable in society so that they might maintain a good reputation for the gospel. Previously he has focused on those in relationship who hold less ‘power’. This is no difference here; women in Asia Minor were often treated and experienced much less freedom than men.

- ii. What does Peter say is the purpose of wives being submissive to their husbands?

It is clear from v.1 that the wives of unbelieving husbands are particularly on view. Peter hoped that by their submission and godly behaviour their husbands might be converted. Voluntary submission is on view here. Tomorrow we will look more closely at the concept of submission.

- iii. Read the passage again, what stands out to you about this paragraph? Do you have any particular questions at this point? (write them down)

*Take your time to pray and ask God for wisdom as you look closely at this passage. This week we will pray for families, but we must remember that we are all responsible for ensuring that life within the home is honouring to God and a good witness to those who don't know the Lord.*

## **TUESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 3:1-7**

As we saw yesterday, Peter is concerned with the missional aspect of wives behaviour toward their husbands. Today we will look closely at the concept of submission specifically in marriage and answer the question, 'is Peter limiting his advice to the missionary aspect and so a culture that is different to ours?'

- i. Recap yesterday's study, what appeared to be the purpose of the wives submission to their husbands?
- ii. How would you define submission? How has Peter used this concept previously?

Before continuing, it is important to note that in 1 Peter 3.7, Peter describes wives as ‘coheirs’ and so equal with their husbands. Paul also proclaims the equality of men and women in Galatians 3.28. Also, we must remember that Peter addresses both wives and husbands, as does Paul. We will look at the passages that address husbands later this week.

- iii. 1 Peter isn’t the only text that speaks of submission within a marital relationship. Read Ephesians 5.22-33, what is submission grounded in here?

A wife’s submission reflects the church’s submission to Christ, so it appears to transcend culture, though some would suggest a cultural motivation is present here also.

- iv. As you reflect on the purpose of submission in marriage, have a think about the following questions:
  - a. Why does this statement by Peter stir up so much controversy in our culture?
  - b. What are the distortions about headship and submission that pervert it?

*Ask God that we as a church might reflect the way Christ has loved us, that all of us might be the examples Peter called his readers to be. Pray for wives in our church particularly for those who live with unbelieving husbands. Ask that God might reveal himself through the women of our church.*

## WEDNESDAY

### Read 1 Peter 3:1-7

Peter encourages wives in how they are to conduct themselves in order to 'win' their husbands over to the faith. He directs their thoughts and our thoughts to our actions and our focus on inner beauty rather than outward adornment.

- i. Quickly list the different aspects of the wife's behaviour or conduct that Peter teaches here. What are the wives encouraged to be, to do or not to do?
- ii. Wearing make-up or putting time into your hair is a fairly normal and innocent thing for a woman to do. But, this is not always the case. Read Isaiah 3.16-24. What does all the 'finery' of these women suggest?
- iii. What reason does Peter give in v.4 for seeking to show inner beauty? What is it that really matters to God?
- iv. Peter wants his readers to display that God's hope and inheritance is what matters, that they trust him. How does his example of Sarah and other holy women (Rebecca, Rachel and Leah would be on view) make this point?

*Ask God that we may all desire to please our God in all our ways. Pray that we might be a church that demonstrates a true and living inward trust in how we present ourselves on the outside.*

**THURSDAY****Read 1 Peter 3:1-7**

Peter also addresses husbands. Again he uses the phrase ‘in the same way’ which continues the same theme, or train of thought linking back to 2.13.

- v. What are the two characteristics of their wives that husbands are to keep in mind?
  
- vi. Interpreters differ over whether “weaker vessel” means weaker in terms of delegated authority, emotions, or physical strength. Peter is probably thinking of the general truth that men are physically stronger than women and may be tempted to threaten their wives through physical or verbal abuse. What does it mean to be an “heir of the gracious gift of life”? How does this relate to what you have learnt from 1 Peter so far?
  
- vii. In light of the above, how does Peter instruct husbands to treat their wives?

*Tomorrow we will look more closely at what it means to be considerate and respectable. Today, pray that husbands seek to maintain good and blameless behaviour and love their wives. Ask that they always acknowledge women as co-heirs so that neighbours notice the gift that God has given each of us; the gift of eternal life.*

**FRIDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 3:1-7**

Peter calls husbands to be knowledgeable and respectable to their wives. In a perfect sense a marriage relationship allows for mutual love that leaves no room for fear. Husbands should conduct themselves in such a way that they are worthy of the wife submission and respect.

- i. What do you think it means to be considerate? How do you grow in consideration for another?
- ii. Peter has called husbands to be considerate. He now calls them to respect their wives, which means that they need to act respectably. How is it that husbands can easily become inconsistent and so not act respectably?
- iii. Read Ephesians 5.22-33. What are husbands called to do and how does this relate to what Peter has been instructing them?
- iv. What is the consequence of husbands not treating their wives in a godly way? (Side note – have you ever considered prayers being hindered?)

*Pray for the husbands you know that they would be devoted to Christ and bring glory to God. That they would be considerate and respectful, reflecting Christ to their wives and so being worthy of trust!*



Sermon notes - 1 Peter 3:1-7

## **EXILES: LIVING IN THE HOME**

# EXILES: LIVING WITH SUFFERING KNOWING CHRIST'S VICTORY

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 3:8-12

Peter continues with the same theme of the last couple of chapters. After exhorting citizens, slaves, wives and husbands (2:13-3:7), who does Peter now address?

- v. Verse 8 and 9 list several quick fired instructions. For each one, think of an example of how you could apply the instruction in your life today:
  - a. be like-minded -
  - b. be sympathetic -
  - c. love one another -
  - d. be compassionate -
  - e. be humble -
  - f. do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult -
  - g. repay evil with blessing -
  
- vi. The reason for all the instructions in v8-9 is clear: “because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.” What does it mean to be *called* and what is this blessing? Note: week 1 will help here!

vii. Back in 1 Peter 2:3, Peter already quoted from Psalm 34:8. Now, in 1 Peter 3:10-12, Peter draws on verses 12-16 of the same Psalm. Compare today’s verses with the Psalm quoted – what is similar and different?

| Psalm 34:12-16   | 1 Peter 3:10-12   |
|--|---|
| <p>12 Whoever of you loves life<br/>and desires to see many good days,<br/>13 keep your tongue from evil<br/>and your lips from telling lies.<br/>14 Turn from evil and do good;<br/>seek peace and pursue it.<br/>15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,<br/>and his ears are attentive to their cry;<br/>16 but the face of the Lord is against those who<br/>do evil,<br/>to blot out their name from the earth.</p> | <p>10 For,<br/>“Whoever would love life<br/>and see good days<br/>must keep their tongue from evil<br/>and their lips from deceitful speech.<br/>11 They must turn from evil and do good;<br/>they must seek peace and pursue it.<br/>12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous<br/>and his ears are attentive to their prayer,<br/>but the face of the Lord is against those who do<br/>evil.</p> |

viii. More importantly, why would Peter quote this passage? What is his point here? (notice the word “for” – it ties back in with v8-9)

*Using the Psalm Peter has quoted, take some time and write it in your own words and then into a prayer.*

**TUESDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 3:13-17**

Peter now begins to give guidelines for those who are enduring suffering. This will continue into chapter 4. Read 1 Peter 3.8-22 and then look at v.13-17 again. What is the overarching point of this paragraph?

## NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH

- i. Peter quotes Isaiah 8.12-13; God was teaching his people that they shouldn't fear the plots of others but only Yahweh, their God. Why would Peter quote this passage, how does this relate to his audience?
- ii. How is it that people suffer at the hands of unbelievers for believing in the gospel?

In our context we rarely face direct opposition. Though, as Peter's letter continues, we will identify areas where we might suffer. And, given the tone of 1 Peter we shouldn't be surprised if opposition does come!

- iii. What are the temptations you face when you are suffering for righteousness?
- iv. How does Peter encourage the believers to respond and how does this response link with his directives since 1 Peter 2.13?

*Reflect: Have you been asked for a reason for the hope that is in you? Did you respond with both gentleness and respect?*

- *Praise God for this hope.*
- *Pray that "Christ the Lord would be honored in our hearts as holy".*
- *Pray for those who suffer that they will respond in a godly way.*

**WEDNESDAY****Read 1 Peter 3:18-22**

Peter now gives the reason for his instructions. He directs readers to consider Christ's sacrifice.

- i. What is the immediate reason that Peter gives for it better to suffer for doing good than evil? How does he link his point to v.18?
- ii. What does verse 18 mean? Try to write it in your own words:
- iii. Are there any other passages that you think of when you read 1 Peter 3.18?

*Verse 18 has a key statement on the substitutionary atonement of Christ. He suffered and died as the righteous in place of the unrighteous, in order to bring us to God. Thank God for this truth! Read 1 Peter 1.1-9 again to help you remember what Christ's death has guaranteed.*

**THURSDAY****Read 1 Peter 3:19-22**

These verses are some of the more difficult to understand, not just in 1 Peter but all of Scripture! Today we will focus on the main point that is being made.

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- i. There are a few common interpretations of who the “spirits in prison” (v19) are. No matter who they are, what might be the significance of Jesus proclaiming to them?
- ii. Why do you think Peter draws a similarity between Noah and baptism in this passage?

*Note: The mere mechanical act of baptism does not save, for Peter explicitly says “not as a removal of dirt from the body”, meaning that the passing of water over the body does not cleanse anyone. The phrase “saves you” is about baptism representing inward faith, as evidenced by one’s “appeal to God” for the forgiveness of one’s sins (“for a good conscience”).*

- iii. What does it mean that Jesus is at the right hand of God? How does this make Jesus suffering and death his ‘pathway’ to victory and exaltation?
- iv. Who and what is now subject to Jesus? What are the implications of this?

*Thank God for Christ’s sacrifice. Praise him who has “gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him”. Thank him for the certainty you have that you will be vindicated because of his death and resurrection.*

*As you think about what the resurrection and authority of Jesus mean to you personally, may the image of verse 22 inspire your worship of him.*

**FRIDAY****Read 1 Peter 2:13-3.12**

Take time to look back over the last chapter and a half. Can you see how it all works together?

Work back through each day of your devotions. What questions did you have? How have some been answered? What question do you still have?

**Read 1 Peter 3:13-22**

Having read this section what is Peter's main purpose? How would the readers been comforted by Peter's words?

*Read over Philipians 2.5-11 meditate on this passage and on 1 Peter 3.13-22. Write a few prayer points that extend from your 'quiet time' and pray through them. You might like to share with another what God has been prompting you to pray through His word.*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 3:8-22

# **EXILES: LIVING WITH SUFFERING KNOWING CHRIST'S VICTORY**



## WEEK 8 – 1 Peter 4:1-19

# EXILES: LIVING KNOWING THE END IS NEAR, BUT NOT YET HERE

## MONDAY

Read 1 Peter 3.18-4.1

Peter now continues to give advice to those who suffer for the faith.

- i. Peter connects the previous section by drawing a conclusion in v.1, he says ‘therefore’. What is the connection between Peter’s point in 3.18-22 and 4.1?
- ii. Why does Peter call them to ‘arm’ themselves?
- iii. It is most likely that Peter is referring to Christians at the end of v.1. He isn’t saying that they are now completely sinless but that because they are willing to suffer they have broken with sin. How is he expressing that they have finished with sin?
- iv. Why is it hard to imagine suffering in the flesh? Does this make it difficult for us to ‘arm’ ourselves with an attitude like Christ’s?

*This week we are going to have to reflect deeply on whether we do have an attitude like Christ’s. We experience very little suffering in the flesh that is directly due to our faith. However, we still need to be prepared to suffer knowing Christ has won the victory. Pray you might have that attitude and be able to reflect honestly this week.*

**TUESDAY**

**Read 1 Peter 4.1-6**

Peter now explains why Christians should arm themselves with an attitude that is prepared to suffer. Christians live according to God's will knowing that they will receive vindication while evildoers are judged.

- i. What does Peter call the people to do with the rest of their lives?
- ii. What was their past behaviour that they are to change and how do the believers 'pagan' neighbours react seeing that change?
- iii. In v.5 Peter speaks of judgement. What do we learn about judgement?
- iv. Knowing that there is judgement to come, remembering that believers were suffering, how might this help the believers live with the abuse they are receiving?

*Compare v.6 with 3.18. Thank God that through Jesus we know that even if we have to pay the ultimate consequence, from a 'fleshly' point of view, i.e. death, God's have made us alive! Ask that you might no longer live in old ways but live seeking God's will.*

**WEDNESDAY****Read 1 Peter 4.7-11**

Peter again shifts the focus immediately to the end. He gives general instructions to the people of God, ethics that are determined by the end, what we might call *eschatological ethics*.

- i. How does Peter establish the foundation for all he will unpack in v.7?
- ii. In v.7, 8 and 9 there are three exhortations. What are they? Use one word to sum each of them up, the words are in the verses so shouldn't be too difficult. The next question starts with the answers too.
- iii. Having exhorted them to pray, love and to be hospitable Peter now addresses their spiritual gifts. How does this link with the previous exhortations, particularly love for one another? Paul makes a similar point in 1 Corinthians 12-14, have a look there to help.
- iv. What is the purpose behind all these behaviours and how does this ensure that God's people keep the correct perspective about the end?

*Peter ensures that his readers live knowing that the end is near. The response is to pray, love, be hospitable and use our spiritual gifts. Ask God that we might be a church that is committed to these things, all for His Glory! Close your prayer with the end of v.11 from 'so that...'*

## THURSDAY

### Read 1 Peter 4.12-19 (focus v.12-16)

Given what Peter has been saying throughout this letter it isn't surprising that having mentioned Christ's glory, he again thinks of suffering.

- i. Peter sets up a contrast in v.12 & 13. What is it?
- ii. What are the reasons Peter gives for rejoicing when suffering? What is the suffering that he would be referring to, is it a particular type of suffering?
- iii. Why are the readers to suffer? How might this relate to what he has been unpacking in the past couple of chapters?
- iv. How does Peter saying 'do not be ashamed' help us understand what the people might be experiencing? How can we suffer in a similar way?

*Though we are not insulted and socially shamed in the same ways as Peter's original readers. We can and will feel like exiles, like outsiders and we can and will be made to feel that way, maybe even shamed socially. We shouldn't be surprised when this happens but rejoice knowing it is because of the name we bear, Christian; a follower of Christ. Ask God that you might never be ashamed to bear the name of Christ.*

**FRIDAY****Read 1 Peter 4.12-19 (focus v.17-19)**

Judgement is not something we like to neither think of nor speak about. Yet Peter, in v.17-19, uses judgement to firm up the foundations for his exhortations to rejoice and to suffer only for doing good.

- i. In v.17 where does judgement begin? Do you find this strange? How might the persecution believers are facing be the beginning of judgement? See 1 Corinthians 11.32 also.
- ii. How does Paul then shift the focus to those who don't believe the gospel? What is his point through this comparison?
- iii. Peter quotes Proverbs 11.31, how does this rhetorical question further his point?
- iv. What should believers do in light of all this (v.19)? How can you commit to do good this week, even if it could mean suffering shame?

*Lets finish this week by praying for all those who believe. That they will trust their faithful creator and be willing to do good. Pray also for those who don't belong to the family of God. Ask God to change them so they too can trust him.*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 4.1-19

**EXILES: LIVING KNOWING THE END IS NEAR,  
BUT NOT YET HERE**

## WEEK 9 – 1 Peter 5:1-14

# EXILES: PURSUE SOLIDARITY IN VIEW OF SUFFERING

## MONDAY

### Read 1 Peter 5:1-4

Elders and those in their care must hold one another up in humility; serving one another. There is no room for bullying or dishonesty. Instead all serve humbly in God's church with a hope of a great reward when Christ returns.

- i. Why would Peter address the elders first? What does this tell you about their position?
- ii. This letter was read aloud to everyone in the churches - not just the elders. What effect might this have had among the elders? The non-elders? Consider especially vv2-3
- iii. How does 'humble leadership by means of service' differ from the world's approach to leadership?
- iv. Peter reminds the church that he had witnessed Jesus' sufferings. Jesus was also glorified at his resurrection. What is the glory for church leaders who suffer for Christ today? See v4.

## **NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Leadership is often viewed as an opportunity to boss others as you seek your own agenda. Peter paints a different picture. He depicts a leader who is humble, eager to serve, and willing for their actions to be an example to all who look to them.*

*Pray that the leaders at Narwee Baptist will serve in such a way. Consider how you might encourage those who have authority over you.*

## **TUESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 5:5-6**

Peter calls on the community of believers in Asia Minor to adopt God's opposition to proudness as they serve one another humbly. Following leaders is rarely viewed positively in Australia. Even though it's an essential part of our school and work lives, we are not often told of the importance of showing respect to authority. But just as leaders are to lead those in their care, others should humbly submit to their leadership.

- i. What does it mean to submit to elders?
- ii. Why would Peter tell these younger Christians that 'God opposes the proud' while he also tells them to submit? Is there a connection between the two?
- iii. What are the dangers for a church which doesn't have people who are willing to submit to authority?
- iv. Do you submit to authority in your church? How?



*Peter asks younger people to submit to authority. This is often quite difficult when authority is not functioning the way it's supposed to be functioning. Peter is not ignorant of this problem. In fact he has spent quite a bit of time addressing this very issue (see chapter 2). Yet blind obedience and proud disobedience are equally dangerous. Instead, Peter calls for a spiritually mature church to show humility toward one another.*

*Pray that you would play your part at Narwee Baptist: serving God by submitting yourself to the leaders as an act of worship.*

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 5:6-11**

Peter's final instructions and encouragements are about resisting the evil work of their enemy, the Devil. It's been said that times of difficulty can either drive one towards God or away from God. Peter urges them to overcome the Devil by standing firm in the faith.

- i. Why would Peter tell these Christians to cast all their anxiety on God right after he has told them to humble themselves? What is the connection? Take a look at the quote in v5.
- ii. What effect does a roaring lion have on its prey? What does this have to do with the persecuted church?
- iii. How would you use verses 8-11 to direct and comfort the persecuted church?

- iv. How do we resist the Devil's attacks? Take a look at the first part of verse 9. What does it mean to 'stand firm in the faith'?

*What are our sufferings as Christians? Some Christians suffer more than others. Peter's encouragement is that suffering is not a permanent state, but something which shall be removed eventually. It can be tempting to be fixated on suffering and to be fixated on the work of the Devil. But Peter calls us to stand firm in the faith: to remember that Jesus died for our sins and that we have been called to a new life of obedience in him. Pray that you will stand firm in the faith with your community of believers.*

## **THURSDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 5:12-14**

Peter's final greetings are saturated with the grace, humility, and love he's implored the church to demonstrate. He reminds them to stand in the faith despite what they face. He does so not ignorant of their condition, but a cobearer in their sufferings.

- i. How does Peter refer to Silas and Mark? What can we learn from this?
- ii. How do we treat others in our church? Do we speak of them in similar terms?
- iii. We generally tend not to go around kissing each other in our church. How can we 'greet one another with a kiss of love'?

*Pray that your humility will be clearly demonstrated to all in the church. That you will have love, honour, and respect for others so as to be a faithful ambassador for Christ.*

## **FRIDAY**

### **Read 1 Peter 2:12**

Peter calls on the church to endure suffering with grace, peace, and integrity for the sake of the proclamation of the Gospel. How is our Christian integrity?

- i. Some say verse 12 is a summary of the whole letter. If so, what is 1 Peter about?
- ii. Is there anything in this letter that puzzles you? What questions do you have?

*Pray a prayer of thankfulness that God was able to use Peter in such mighty ways. Pray also that you would be a faithful witness to the world as you live in the freedom of Christ.*

**NARWEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sermon notes - 1 Peter 5.1-14

**EXILES:  
PURSUE SOLIDARITY IN VIEW OF SUFFERING**