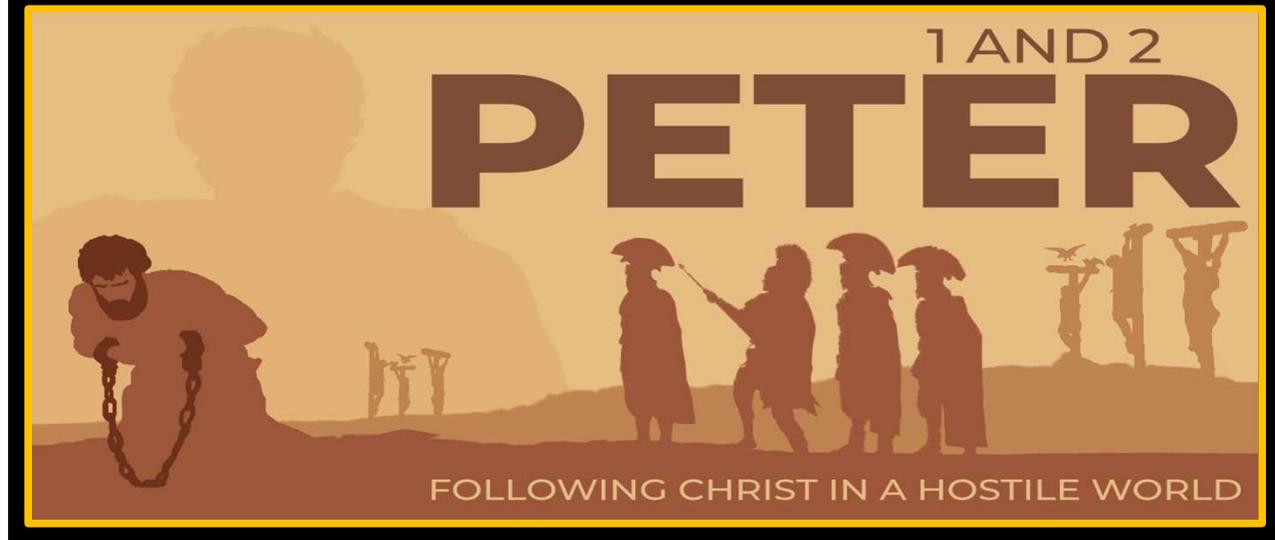


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

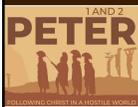
Online Only Via Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm



1

Bible Study Schedule Jan – Feb 2022

| Date | Study Title | Scriptures |
|-----------|---|--------------------|
| 1/12/2022 | Strangers In the World | I Peter 1:1 – 12 |
| 1/19/2022 | Called To Be Different | I Peter 1:13 – 25 |
| 1/26/2022 | Do I Want To Grow Up? | I Peter 2:1 – 12 |
| 2/2/2022 | In His Steps | I Peter 2:13 – 3:7 |
| 2/9/2022 | If I'm Living Right, Then why Do I Hurt So Much | I Peter 3:8 – 22 |
| 2/16/2022 | Christians At Risk | I Peter 4 |
| 2/23/2022 | TLC For Trying Times | I Peter 5 |



2

This Week's Lesson – February 16, 2022

I & II Peter: Following Christ In A Hostile World

Lesson 6:

Christians At Risk

I Peter 4



3

Introduction to I Peter

Author: 1 Peter 1:1 identifies the author as the apostle Peter.

Date of Writing: between A.D. 60 and 65.

Purpose of Writing: To encourage the dispersed believers to endure suffering in an obedient, victorious life.

Practical Application:

- The assurance of eternal life is given to all Christians.
- One way to identify with Christ is to share in His suffering.
- We are to stand up for Biblical Truth and rejoice when the world and Satan aim to hurt you.



The Apostle
Peter



4



5

Organizations That Assist Persecuted Christians



OpenDoors

www.opendoorsusa.org



The Voice of the Martyrs

www.persecution.com

go to **NATIONS**

EVERY TRIBE + EVERY TONGUE + EVERY NATION

www.gotonations.org

6

Read I Peter 4:1 – 11

7

1. How is a Christian different from a pagan (vv. 1-6)?

Actions

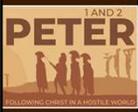
Christians: Holy, Heavenly, Selfless, God-honoring lifestyle; that lives for God's Will and not the world. (vv. 1 – 2).

Pagans: People who chose life ungodly lives – living for the flesh and trying to get other people do the same (vv. 3 – 4).

Attitudes

Christians: Live for eternity; Willing to share the Gospel with the lost (vv. 2 – 3, 6).

Pagans: Focused on today and looking to draw others to evil. Confronting and canceling those who live holy.

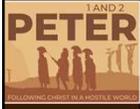


8

2. What are some practical ways that Christians might live out that symbolic link with Jesus?

- **Consecrate:** Make a conscious daily effort to stay in prayer and in the Word of God to have the Mind of Christ.
- **Confess:** Be real about our sinful thoughts and action – asking the Lord's forgiveness and strength.
- **Consideration:** Put our problems and struggles in the perspective of our Eternal home and reward.
- **Commit:** Give our all to the higher purpose and will of God for our lives.

"...in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself ...Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil 2:3,5 (NKJV)

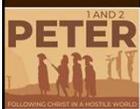


9

3. How might the information in verses 4-6 help us deal with those doubts?

- **Reality of Spiritual Death:** The reality is that without faith in Christ, we are not spiritually alive.
- **Recompence of Spiritual Death:** All who reject Jesus in sinful unbelief will receive their just eternal punishment.
- **Rescue from Spiritual Death:** Christians will also be judged – we henceforth we live for Him today.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23 (KJV)



10

4. What specific instructions does Peter give suffering Christians who are aware that the end of all things is coming (vv. 7-11)?

- **Be Disciplined in Mind:** We to be “clear minded” and “self-controlled” – praying God’s will (v. 7).
- **Be Devoted To Members:** “Love each other deeply” – showing Christlike love to all but especially to the Church (v. 8).
- **Be Willing To Demonstrate Mercy:** “Offer hospitality” Be gracious and willing serve others in the name of Jesus (v. 9).



11

4. What specific instructions does Peter give suffering Christians who are aware that the end of all things is coming (vv. 7-11)?

- **Be Dedicated To Ministry:** “Use whatever gift you have received to serve others” We use all God has given (Time, Talent, Treasure) to serve others (v. 10).
- **Boldly Declare The Message:** “speak and serve as representatives of God” Confidently and consistently represent The Gospel in word and deed” (v. 11).

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16 (KJV)



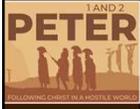
12

5. Of what spiritual and practical value are these instructions?

Spiritual Value

- **Pleases God:** When we obey these Instructions God is pleased and we remain in His favor.
- **Power In Prayer:** We are able to pray according to His will and not our own fleshly desires.
- **Provides Our Purpose:** We are able to stay “on mission” despite the persecution, or trouble in the world.

“...be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble” II Peter 1:10 (NKJV)



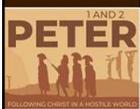
13

5. Of what spiritual and practical value are these instructions?

Practical Value

- **Avoids The Perils of Sin:** We avoid the troubles that come from disobedience to God’s Will and Word.
- **Assistance From The People of God:** We are in position to help others and be helped
- **Acceptance In the Peace of God:** Obedience keeps us in God’s peace – and from fear, doubt, and worry.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)



14

Read I Peter 4:12 – 19

15

6. According to these verses, what are some right and wrong ways for a Christian to suffer?

Right Ways For Christians To Suffer

- **Recognizing The Realty of Suffering:** Accepting the truth that following Christ will lead us to suffering as He did.
- **Rejoicing In Suffering:** Even in the midst of difficulties, we rejoice in the Person and Promises of Christ
- **Relying On God's Power in Suffering:** The greater the trials – the more God's power is available to us.
- **Resolving To Persevere In Suffering:** Continuing to be faithful To God in the good times or the bad times.

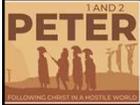


16

6. According to these verses, what are some right and wrong ways for a Christian to suffer?

Wrong Ways For Christians Suffer

- **Complaining In Suffering:** When the trials come, complaining instead of trusting God is wrong.
- **Compromising In Suffering:** Allow your suffering to “let your guard down” and step in into sinful areas.
- **Criminally Receiving Suffering:** We engage in immoral behavior that does not honor God, we will reap suffering.
- **Cowardly In Suffering:** Failing to stand boldly for Christ. In the face of opponents of the Gospel.



17

7. Why might a Christian expect to sometimes encounter suffering because of that name?

- **Refining Of Our Faith:** God often allows suffering in our lives to strengthen and prove our faith.
- **Renewed Fellowship With Christ:** As we walk with Christ, suffering allows us to identify with Him.
- **Rejection By Unbelievers:** Blinded by Satan, the lost will often do persecute believers to silence the message.

Note: The term Christian (Acts 11:26 and 26:28), used by outsiders as probably a term of contempt, but to believers it meant “adopted into the family of Christ.

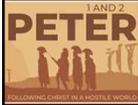


18

8. How might verse 19 be both a comfort and a challenge to a Christian who suffers because of faith?

- **Comfort To Christians:** God will be with us to strengthen us during our times of suffering for our faith.
- **Challenge To Christians:** To remain faithful and to continue the good work of the Lord – despite pain and persecution.

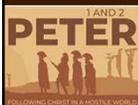
“...Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” Matthew 16:24 (NKJV)



19

Keys For Living

- As we thank the Lord for the religious freedom we have in the U.S., we also need to support and pray for the persecuted Church around the world.
- As we face suffering in our Christian walk, we need to remind ourselves that we are identifying with the suffering Jesus faced for us.
- As Christians we need to live as if Jesus could come or that we could go to Him at any time - because either scenario is a reality.



20

