

1st Peter—Group Study Questions #2

Connecting With One Another

Reflecting on Scott's introduction to our study in 1 Peter, share about a time/experience in your life where you distinctly felt like an exile because of your faith (in school-age years, in a job setting, in your family, etc).

- How did this impact your faith – did it deepen or dampen your pursuit of God?

Entering 1 Peter

Take a few minutes to recall together:

- who wrote this letter and what we know about the author
- to whom the letter was addressed and what was going on in their lives
- why the letter was needed/written

Encountering the text together

READ 1 Peter 1:3-12 together out loud – in one or two different translations.

- Take a moment to share any initial observations, words that puzzle you or catch your attention, ideas that resonate or feel jarring
- In and through all the details of this passage, how is God described (think character, concern and activity)? How is this an encouragement to you?
- What does Peter consider 'valuable' in human terms and in eternal terms?
 - Are these two kinds of values mutually exclusive or related to each other?
 - What makes these things valuable (eg. long-lasting, pure, joy-producing, etc)?
- Revisit v2.10-12 and discuss why does Peter consider himself and his readers as 'especially blessed' (lucky?) compared to other folks in history?
 - What kind of research, diligence and energy did other folks expend in order for Peter's readers to benefit (eg. prophets)? Was their timeframe for research and influence short (a few years) or long (decades & centuries)?
 - What is the significance of Peter's readers' love for their as-yet-unseen Jesus (verse 8)?
 - What might Jesus-initiated rescue and joy (v.8) mean for us in present-day 2021, and not only in a future sense?

Praying Alongside One Another

- Take time to pray out of what you've discussed and shared – praying for one another and others who might also come to mind.
- And let's keep praying for God's rescue and will in and through the trial of Covid – right here and around the world.