

1st Peter—Group Study Questions #16

Connecting With One Another

- When other folks are corresponding with you via snail-mail letters, phone calls, text or e-mails, what are some real-life examples of the things you receive that . . .
 - are boringly long?
 - omit crucial information?
 - make you wish they'd revealed more of themselves?
 - genuinely connect you with old friends and perhaps new folks too?

Entering 1 Peter

- If someone were to call you their 'helper' would this . . .
 - offend you as demeaning your contribution?
 - encourage you about your connectedness with them?
 - bolster your mutual teamwork?

Encountering the text together

READ 1 Peter 5:12-14 together out loud—SLOWLY—in one or two different translations (perhaps even in non-English languages if this is helpful for you or others in your group).

- List the names, roles and relationships that Peter mentions.
 - Are any of these interconnected (eg. a person who is a husband but also a father and shepherd . . .)?
 - Just WHO might "*she who is in Babylon*" who is "*chosen together with you*" be?
- Peter encourages us to greeting one another with "*a kiss of love*" . . .
 - What did this mean in his day, and what does it mean for us today?
 - Is this precise gesture necessary or are there other 'emblems of friendship and solidarity' that can express the same?
- When, as he closes his letter, Peter writes, "*Peace to all of you who are in Christ*"
 - Is this a 'blanket statement' or some sort of code that Peter is invoking for extra-spiritual folks?
 - What is the nature of this "*peace*" while folks are still suffering?
 - Is there any significance to the fact that Peter ends his letter open-ended instead of a flourish defining his own authorship?

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. Perhaps begin with a time of quiet reflection and allow God to speak to you.
- Pray for each other as individuals, as a group, as Lambrick's congregation, as God's expression through us, and others of his people all over the world. In these days perhaps remember especially our spiritual kinfolk in Russia and Ukraine.