

Resilient Faith: A Study of 1 Peter
Group Guide | February 8

Open with prayer (5 minutes).

Begin your time together as a group with a word of prayer. Invite God to help your group be “completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love” (Ephesians 4:2-3) as you begin your time together.

Reflect (10 minutes).

- How do you tend to identify yourself? If you had to describe yourself using 3-5 “role” words, what would they be? (For example: I’m a mom, a teacher, a friend, etc.)
- If you were asked to create a “job description” for a Christ-follower, what would be the “duties” you would list?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-17 and then discuss the sermon (30 minutes).

- What stood out to you or challenged you in Dan’s sermon on Sunday?
- Dan pointed out that Peter referred to the believers as “foreigners and exiles” (verse 11) in the world. Do you identify yourself as a foreigner or exile? If not, how could that perspective shift your thinking and behavior?
- Peter also identified believers as “God’s slaves” (verse 16). That’s an uncomfortable term for many people. What thoughts come to mind when you think of yourself as God’s slave?
- Verse 12 calls us to live such good lives among nonbelievers that they will notice and give glory to God. What examples have you seen of Christians living in this way? What was the impact?

Peter lists some items on the Christ-follower’s “job description.” As Dan said, these some of are our “assignments” as believers:

- Resist destructive temptations (2:11)
 - Honor worldly authority (2:13-14)
 - Show respect for everyone and a special love for those in the family of believers (2:17).
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- How does this list compare to the list your group created? Peter isn’t claiming this is a comprehensive list, but does it contain some expectations of believers you don’t normally consider? In what ways?
 - If you to give yourself a “performance review” on this “job description,” how would you do?
 - What would it look like to take steps forward in one of the areas that “needs improvement”?
 - How can our life group hold each other accountable in the areas we’ve named?

If applicable, reflect on the 90-Day Bible Reading Plan (10 minutes)

- What was your time reading the New Testament and Psalms like for you this week?

- What is something you learned?
- What stood out or challenged you from God's Word?

Finish with prayer (5 minutes).

Have someone read Ephesians 2:8-10.

As we talk about the “assignments” God has given us, it’s important to remember that we obey God because of who He is and what He has already done for us—not to earn our salvation but in response to His love and with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Pray together, thanking God for His grace and asking Him to deepen your discipleship. Intercede on behalf of one another for the areas of desired improvement you shared.