
Strangers in our World

(1 Peter)

Life Group Studies

(February 2017 to July 2018)

You may want to listen again to the four part sermon series at the end of 2016!

1 Peter 1:1-2

28 Feb & 1 Mar 2017

1. How would you describe our society's attitude to Christians?
What do you think the future might hold?

2. How does all that make you feel?

3. Peter refers to the believers as God's elect who are scattered exiles (v.1). What do those two underlined words say about us?

4. Why might we struggle to get our heads around the teaching of election and what might help us?

5. In v.2, what part does each member of the Trinity play in our salvation? How do their differing roles affect you?

6. How can Peter bless them with abundant grace and peace in a world that is set against Christ and his followers?

7. What can you pray about in response to this passage?

1 Peter 1:3-12

25 & 26 Apr 2017

1. Think of yourself as a non-Christian for a moment – on what would you base your security, future and joy?
2. How is the resurrection of Jesus connected to our living hope and our future inheritance? How does this give us certainty?
3. What then should be the basis of our security, future hope and joy (v.3-6)?
4. What purpose does persecution have in our lives (v.7)? How is that so?
5. How is our time period and experience a privileged one and how should this affect us (v.10-12)?
6. How might all this help us when it feels like the world is against us?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1 Peter 1:13-2:3

16 & 17 May 2017

1. What do you think of when you hear the word, "Holy"? How might that be helpful or unhelpful?
2. How is there a connection between our future hope and pursuit of godliness?
3. What is the relationship between our Father's holiness and ours?
4. What is the difference with the way they, and we, have been redeemed compared to the way of their ancestors?
5. In what way might Christians be protected from all that may harm and be nourished by all that is helpful (2:1-3)?
6. What specifically might it look like for you to live a holy life?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1 Peter 2:4-10

18 & 19 July 2017

1. If someone who wasn't a Christian asked you what difference Jesus makes to your life, how might you respond?
2. What metaphors does Peter use for who we now are and how do they help us to see more of who we are?
3. What place does Jesus have in our new identity? How should that be part of our experience?
4. In v.5 & 9, what purpose does Jesus have for your new life in him?
5. How does the description of who you are in v.9-10 affect you?
6. Some Christians say that you can be a Christian without being part of a church. How might you use this passage to answer them?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1. How would you describe what it feels like living in a world of people who don't follow Jesus?

2. How does 2:11-12 serve as a summary for how we are to live as Christians in this world?

3. What do you think the last phrase of 2:12 mean, and how might that encourage us as we live amongst unbelievers?

4. What does it mean for us as Christians to submit to the laws of the land?

5. How might you help a fellow believer who was being picked upon in the workplace?

6. What specific words of encouragement might you share with another member who is married to a non-Christian spouse?

7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1. What scenarios might we face in our society where we suffer as Christians for doing good?
2. How might the instructions of v.9 help you to show Jesus' love to those who might be against us?
3. Why should we not fear (v.13-15)?
4. In v.15, on the one hand we're to be ready to boldly explain our hope, on the other hand we're to do so with gentleness and respect. Which aspect do you find harder and why?
5. In what way might our own suffering be like the experience of Jesus? In what way is Jesus' suffering unique?
6. If another member was suffering for doing good, how might you seek to encourage them?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1 Peter 4:1-11

13 & 14 Feb 2018

1. What was Jesus' attitude to suffering? What is ours?
2. How does suffering for our faith challenge us to finish with sin?
3. How does having an eternal perspective here help us in regard to sin and suffering?
4. As Peter writes about suffering persecution, he suddenly shifts to talking about the local church. Why do you think that is?
5. In what way does v.8-11 indicate that the church community is a source of refuge? How can you contribute to that?
6. What should our ultimate aim be in any speaking or serving that we do? What does that look like?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1. Why should persecution not catch us by surprise?
2. In what way is our suffering a participation in the suffering of Jesus? How does that help us rejoice?
3. Why does it matter that any suffering you experience is because of being a Christian rather than because you have done something wrong?
4. How can you ensure that any suffering is for being a Christian rather than for doing the wrong thing?
5. In what way is suffering a form of judgement of "God's household" (v.17)? What evidence do you see of this today?
6. If the judgement is now for the church, what do we understand about unbelievers and their judgement?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1 Peter 5:1-7

15 & 16 May 2018

1. Why is it difficult for leadership and humility to co-exist? What might make this different for Christians?
2. Given the context, why is it so important that Paul sorts out the leadership of the church?
3. Why do you think Peter chooses to highlight the three pairings of negatives and positives that he does in v.2-3?
4. Why is it important to draw attention to Jesus as the chief shepherd and the reward he gives (v.4)?
5. What makes submission to leaders hard? Short of perfect leaders, what will help us in this?
6. How can humility be an antidote to anxiety?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

1 Peter 5:8-14

17 & 18 July 2018

1. In light of the likelihood of persecution, Peter says we're to be "alert and of sober mind." What do you think that looks like?
2. Though we can be unhelpfully aware of the Devil, what does a healthy awareness look like? How does it help?
3. What is it that will help you resist the Devil?
4. How does it help in your own sufferings when you know that other Christians around the world are suffering too?
5. How does the promise of v.10 make you feel?
6. In what ways does the end of v.12 summarise the whole book?
7. What can you pray in response to this passage?

What are Life Groups?

Life Groups are about providing opportunities for sharing our lives with each other and encouraging each other in our life of faith. All this is much easier in a smaller group context that Life Groups provide. As well as a short Bible Study, these groups will be about sharing and praying for each other's needs on a deeper level than we do in other contexts, especially praying for each other in our witness to the world.

Times, Locations & Leaders

Tuesdays, 7:30pm

David Morgan	Pontnewydd
Jon Thompson	Langstone
Jonny Raine	Croesyceiliog
Mark Hands	Henllys

Wednesdays, 7:30pm

John Vinall	Pontnewydd
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(Times and locations may change from time to time, but your Life Group leader will let you know in advance)