



Bible Teaching Resources

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A Practical Study of 1 PETER: Practice for Suffering Saints

“How Suffering Fits in the Father’s Plan”

Key Verse: 1 Peter 5:10

“But the God of all Grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, shall himself make you complete, shall establish you, shall make you strong, shall ground you as on a foundation.”

PATTERN NUMBER ONE – DON’T GET SHOOK, GOD HAS THE CONTROLS – 1 PETER 1:1-12

KEY VERSES 1:3-5

v. 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the chosen exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,

v. 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in setting apart of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be yours in ever greater measure.

v. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

v. 4 unto an inheritance imperishable and undefiled and unfading, which has been reserved in heaven for you,

v. 5 you who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

v. 6 In this you are rejoicing, though now for a little while, if it must be (if there is need for it), you have been distressed in the midst of various kinds of testings,

v. 7 in order that the genuineness of your faith, which is more precious than gold which is perishing, though it is being tested by fire, may be found for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

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v. 8 whom having not seen, you are loving, in whom now not seeing, yet believing, you are rejoicing with inexpressible and glorified joy,
v. 9 obtaining as an outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.
v.10 Concerning which salvation prophets searched and inquired carefully, those who prophesied concerning the grace intended for you,
v.11 searching what time or what kind of time the Spirit of Christ who was in them was making clear when He was testifying beforehand concerning the sufferings of Christ and the glories along with them.
v.12 To whom it was revealed that, not for themselves, but for you they were ministering these things which now have been reported to you through those who have proclaimed the good news to you by the Holy Spirit who was sent from heaven—which things angels are eagerly desiring to gain a clear glance (to look into).

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 1:1-12 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What has God the Father done for us, according to verse 3?

3. What does the future hold for us who know Christ, according to verse 4?

4. How are we protected in verse 5?

5. Why are we being tested in verses 6 & 7?

6. Who is being spoken about in verse 8?

7. What does Peter tell us in verse 9 will be the result of our faith?

8. Have you ever personally received Jesus Christ by faith? If your answer is yes, describe when and how it happened.

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER TWO – GET TOUGH AND START GROWING – 1 PETER 1:13-2:3

KEY VERSES 1:13 & 2:2

v.13 Wherefore, when you have girded the loins of your mind, be well-balanced, set your hope fully upon the grace that is being brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

v.14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,

v.15 but according to the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves in all your conduct;

v.16 because it has been written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

v.17 If you are calling upon as Father the one who is judging impartially according to each individual’s work, live in fear the time of your stay here in a strange land;

v.18 knowing that not with perishable things as silver or gold were you ransomed from your futile ways of life inherited from your forefathers,

v.19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish and without spot.

v.20 Who indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of the times for your sake

v.21 who through Him are believers in God, the one who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope might be in God.

v.22 Having purified your souls by means of your obedience to the truth unto genuine (unhypocritical) love of the brethren, love one another from the heart earnestly,

v.23 having been born again not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding Word of God.

v.24 For, “All flesh is as grass, and all its glory as the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,

v.25 but the Word of the Lord is abiding forever.” And this is the word of good news which was preached unto you.

2:v. 1 Wherefore, having put away all malice and all deceit and pretenses and envies and all slanderings,

v. 2 like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, in order that by it you may grow up in salvation,

v. 3 for you tasted that the Lord is loving (kind, benevolent).

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 1:13-2:3 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What two things does Peter ask us to do in verse 13?

3. What does Peter ask us to do in verse 15? And why in verse 16?

4. How are we supposed to live in verse 17?

5. What makes it possible for us to have a relationship to God, according to verse 19?

6. What does Peter ask us to do in verse 22?

7. What are we asked to put away in chapter 2:1?

8. Why does Peter want us to drink the milk of the Word in chapter 2:2?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER THREE – YOU ARE PART OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
– 1 PETER 2:4-10

KEY VERSE 2:5

v. 4 Toward whom we are drawing near a living stone, having been, it is true, rejected by men, but with God, elect, precious,
v. 5 and you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house into a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
v. 6 Because of this it is contained in Scripture: “Behold I am laying in Zion a stone, one chosen out, a precious cornerstone, and the one who is believing on Him shall by no means be disappointed.”
v. 7 To you therefore who are believing is the preciousness, but to those who are unbelievers, “The stone which the builders rejected, this [stone] became a head cornerstone,”
v. 8 and, “a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock which arouses opposition”; for they are stumbling at the word, being an unbeliever, to which indeed they were appointed.
v. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people that have become [God’s own] possession, in order that you might proclaim the virtues of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
v.10 who at one time were not a people, but now are God’s people; who once had not found mercy, but now have found mercy.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 2:4-10 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How is the Lord Jesus described in verse 4?

3. How are we described in verse 5?

4. What does Peter say about those who believe on the Lord Jesus in verse 6?

5. Who is the “stone” and “rock” in verse 8, and what two things does He cause, according to this verse?

6. How is the Christian described in verse 9?

7. What is the Christian’s responsibility, according to verse 9?

8. What two things have happened since we came to know Christ, according to verse 10?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER FOUR – SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY – 1 PETER 2:11-17

KEY VERSE 2:13

v.11 Beloved, I am begging you as aliens and exiles to keep away from the desires of the flesh, which are waging war against your soul.

v.12 Having your manner of life among the Gentiles beautiful in its goodness, in order that in case they are speaking against you as those who are doing evil, as a result of your good deeds, which they are watching, they may glorify God on the day of visitation.

v.13 Be subject to every human institution for the Lord's sake, whether to a king as one who is supreme,

v.14 or to governors as those sent by Him to punish those who are doing evil and to give praise to those who are doing good.

v.15 For so is the will of God, that by doing good you might put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

v.16 As free and not as those who are using their freedom as a covering for evil but as bondslaves of God.

v.17 Honor all men; be loving the brotherhood, be fearing God, be honoring the king.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 2:11-17 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Peter ask us to do, according to verse 11?

3. What kind of life does he want us to have, according to verse 12?

4. Why is it important for us to have this quality of life in verse 12?

5. What are we asked to do in verse 13?

6. Who is it that sends the governors and what is the governors' responsibility in verse 14?

7. What is the will of God in verse 15?

8. What four things are we asked to do in verse 17?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER FIVE – FOLLOW THE COACH – 1 PETER 2:18-25

KEY VERSE 2:21

v.18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are kind and gentle, but also to those who are harsh (unjust).

v.19 For this is approved, if through a spiritual awareness of God, he is enduring pain while suffering unjustly.

v.20 For what credit is it, if when you are sinning and if you are enduring being beaten? But if when you are doing good and suffering for it and this you are enduring, this is commendable in the sight of God.

v.21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you a model to imitate in order that you might follow in His footsteps.

v.22 He committed no sin, nothing false was found in His mouth.

v.23 When He was being reviled, He was reviling not in return; and while suffering, was not threatening, but was committing himself to the one who is judging righteously.

v.24 Who himself carried our sins to the cross in His body, in order that we having died to sins, might live to righteousness; by His wound you have been healed.

v.25 For you were as sheep going astray, but now have been turned back to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 2:18-25 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Describe the two kinds of masters in verse 18 and what the servant's attitude is supposed to be.

3. What does it mean to suffer unjustly in verse 19?

4. What is commendable in the sight of God in verse 20?

5. Who is our model to imitate in verse 21?

6. What five things are said about Jesus in verses 22, 23 & 24?

7. How are we described in verse 25?

8. Who is the "Shepherd and Guardian of our souls" in verse 25?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER SIX – WHEN ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS ONE – 1 PETER 3:1-7

KEY VERSES 3:1, 7

v. 1 In like manner, wives, be putting yourselves in subjection to your own husbands in order that even though certain ones are disbelieving the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,

v. 2 having observed your pure manner of life with a reverential fear.

v. 3 Let your adornment not be the outward adorning with braiding the hair and wearing gold ornaments or putting on clothing;

v. 4 but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God very costly.

v. 5 For thus formerly also the holy women, the ones who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, putting themselves in subjection to their own husbands.

v. 6 As Sarah used to obey Abraham, calling him lord, whose children you become if you are doing good and not fearing any terror.

v. 7 Husbands, in like manner, be living with your wives according to knowledge, showing honor unto the woman as the weaker vessel (sex); as to those who are also joint heirs of the grace of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 3:1-7 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why are the wives to put themselves in subjection to their husbands in verse 1?

3. How is the disbelieving husband to be won to the Lord, according to verse 1?

4. According to verses 3 & 4, which is the most important—outward beauty or inner beauty?

5. How does God feel about this inner beauty?

6. What Old Testament illustration does Peter use to support what he is teaching?

7. What two things does Peter point out as the husband's responsibility, according to verse 7?

8. For what purpose should the husband be doing these two things in verse 7?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

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ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER SEVEN – LIFE CAN BE BEAUTIFUL – 1 PETER 3:8-12

KEY VERSE 3:10

v. 8 Finally, all of you be united in spirit, sympathetic, loving the brethren, tenderhearted, humble-minded;

v. 9 not giving back evil for evil, or verbal abuse for verbal abuse, but on the other hand, be blessing; because to this you have been called in order that you might inherit a blessing.

v.10 For “he who is desiring to love life and to see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit.

v.11 But let him turn away from evil and let him do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

v.12 Because the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their petitions, but the face of the Lord is against those who are practicing evil.”

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 3:8-12 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Whereas Peter was speaking to husbands and wives in the last section, to whom is he speaking in this section?

3. What five things does he ask us to do in verse 8?

4. What do you think Peter means when he asks us to be “tenderhearted?”

5. What does he mean by “verbal abuse” in verse 9?

6. What are we supposed to do in verse 10 if we would be those who love life and want to see good days?

7. What two things does Peter ask for in verse 11?

8. What promise is given in verse 12 for the righteous?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER EIGHT – THE RIGHT GAME PLAN – 1 PETER 3:13-22

KEY VERSES 3:15, 16

v.13 And who is he that will do you harm if you become zealous of the good?

v.14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you will be blessed; have no fear of them, nor be troubled,

v.15 but set apart Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being those who are prepared to make a defense to everyone who is asking you for a reason concerning the hope that is in you, but doing this with gentleness and reverence;

v.16 keeping a clear conscience so that in case you are being spoken against, they may be put to shame those who are insulting (reviling) your good behavior in Christ.

v.17 For it is better to be suffering when doing good, if it should be the will of God, than when doing wrong.

v.18 Because Christ also died once for all for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

v.19 in which also having proceeded He preached to the spirits in prison,

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v.20 who formerly did not obey, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through by means of water.

v.21 Baptism, which also corresponds to this, is now saving you—not a removing of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a clear conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

v.22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, with angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 3:13-22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What promise are we given in verse 14?

3. What are we asked to do in verse 15?

4. How are we to do this, according to verse 15?

5. What are we asked to do in verse 16?

6. State the principle Peter gives in verse 17.

7. Why did Christ die for us, according to verse 18?

8. Where is Jesus now, according to verse 22, and what three groups are subject to Him?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER NINE- WHAT YOU PLANT IS WHAT YOU PICK — 1 PETER 4:1-11

KEY VERSE 4:2

v. 1 Therefore, since Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same insight, because the one who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

v. 2 so as to no longer live the remaining time in the flesh by the desires of men, but by the will of God.

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v. 3 For adequate has been the time that is now past to have accomplished what the Gentiles (pagans, unsaved) desire to do, living in sexual excesses, in desires, in drunkenness, in carousings, in drinking parties and in unlawful idolatries.

v. 4 In which they are surprised (thinking it strange) that you are not running with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you;

v. 5 who shall give account to the one who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

v. 6 For to this end was the gospel preached even to the dead, in order that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

v. 7 But the end of all things has come near; therefore, be of sound mind (keep your head) and exercise self-restraint to help you pray.

v. 8 Above all things, keeping love constant for one another, because love is covering a multitude of sins.

v. 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining.

v.10 As each has received a gift, be exercising it for one another, as good administrators of God's varied grace.

v.11 If anyone is speaking, as utterances of God [let them be]; if anyone is serving, [let him serve] as out of the strength which God is supplying; in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, in whom there is glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 4:1-11 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How are we asked to live according to verse 2?

3. What is the two-fold response of the non-Christian to our purity of life in verse 4?

4. To whom do they finally give account, according to verse 5?

5. What are we asked to do in verse 7 in view of the fact that the end of all things has come near?

6. Why is love so important in verse 8?

7. What does it mean to be hospitable to one another in verse 9?

8. What are we asked to do in verse 10?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER TEN - KEEP A GOOD ATTITUDE — 1 PETER 4:12-19**KEY VERSE 4:16**

v.12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal which is coming upon you, as though something strange were happening to you;

v.13 but inasmuch as you are sharing the sufferings of Christ, be rejoicing; in order that also at the revelation of His glory, you might shout for joy.

v.14 If you are being reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and the Spirit of God is resting upon you.

v.15 For let not one of you be suffering as a murderer, or a thief, or a wrongdoer, or as a meddler in other men's matters;

v.16 but if one is suffering as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him be glorifying God in this name.

v.17 For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what shall be the end of those who are not obeying the gospel of God?

v.18 And if he who is righteous is with difficulty being saved, where will the ungodly and sinner appear?

v.19 Therefore, also let those who are suffering according to the will of God be entrusting their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

NOTES**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the purpose for the "fiery ordeal" in verse 12?

3. What should be our attitude in the midst of these sufferings, according to verse 13?

4. Why are we “blessed” in verse 14?

5. What does Peter mean by the words, “meddler in other men’s matters”?

6. What should be our attitude if we are suffering as a Christian, according to verse 16?

7. Where is judgment beginning, according to verse 17?

8. What two things does Peter ask of “those who are suffering according to the will of God” in verse 19?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER ELEVEN - THERE ARE LAWS FOR LEADERSHIP — 1 PETER 5:1-4

KEY VERSES 5:2, 3

v. 1 Elders, therefore, who are among you I am exhorting, I who am a fellow-elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, who also am a partaker of the glory which is about to be revealed,
v. 2 tend (shepherd) the flock of God which is among you, not by compulsion, but willingly, according to God; not in fondness for dishonest gain, but freely;
v. 3 nor as lording it over (domineering) the portions of the flock assigned to you, but being examples to the flock.
v. 4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you shall receive the unfading crown of glory.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Peter 5:1-4 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What do you think Peter means by the word “elders” in verse 1?

3. What three things does Peter say about himself in verse 1?

4. What are the elders supposed to do in verse 2?

5. What does Peter mean by the statement, “lording it over the portions of the flock assigned to you” in verse 3?

6. What is the best way to lead, according to verse 3?

7. Who is the “Chief Shepherd” in verse 4?

8. What is the reward in verse 4 for being a good leader?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PATTERN NUMBER TWELVE - THE WAY UP IS DOWN — 1 PETER 5:5-14**KEY VERSES 5:5, 6**

v. 5 Likewise, younger ones, be in subjection to the elders; moreover, all of you, in your associations with each other, clothe yourselves with humility, because God is opposing the proud, but is giving grace to the humble.

v. 6 Permit yourselves, therefore, to be humbled under the mighty hand of God, in order that in due time He may exalt you,

v. 7 throwing all your anxieties upon Him, because it is a care to Him about you.

v. 8 Be self-possessed, be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion (in fierce hunger) is walking about, seeking someone to devour (swallow up).

v. 9 Withstand (resist) him, firm (steadfast) in your faith, knowing that the same kind of sufferings are being laid upon your brotherhood who are in the world.

v.10 But the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, shall himself make you complete, shall establish you, shall make you strong, shall ground you as on a foundation.

v.11 To Him be the power (dominion) for ever and ever. Amen.

v.12 Through Silvanus, a faithful brother (as I am thinking of him), briefly I have written to you, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God, in which [grace] take your stand.

v.13 The church in Babylon, chosen out with you, sends greetings, and Mark, my son.

v.14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to you all who are in Christ.

NOTES**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read 1 Peter 5:5-14 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What reason does Peter give for clothing ourselves with “humility?”

3. What is the purpose for permitting ourselves “to be humbled under the mighty hand of God” in verse 6?

4. What are you supposed to do with your “anxieties” in verse 7?

5. Describe in your own words the picture of Satan in verse 8 and what he is trying to do.

6. What promises are given to us in verse 10?

7. How do you think Silvanus got the title “Faithful Brother” in verse 12?

8. Put in your own words what grace means.

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

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ADDITIONAL NOTES:
