

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

1 Peter 1:1-5

Lesson 1

1 Peter begins with some incredible affirmations, reminding the believer in one sentence what God has done for us. Peter uses just a few words to describe our inheritance which God has, through *His abundant mercy, begotten us*. May you find yourself rejoicing in the *pilgrim* life as you study this lesson.

DAY ONE: Read 1 Peter 1:1-5

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
 - a. 1 Peter 1:1-5 has been divided into 2 sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-2

Verses 3-5

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

God, Jesus, Spirit, faith, hope, grace, incorruptible, salvation, and the phrase according to

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Peter 1:1-5. Remember, as you mark the words, *God, Jesus, and Spirit* to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them - such as *Father, His, Him, Christ*, etc. Although the Father, Son, and Spirit are all God, use the same symbol for *God* as you do for *Father*. You do not need to mark every word that refers Them - only those that you feel are significant.

3. The letter of 1 Peter is written to *the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia*. Although this letter is specifically written to believers in a certain geographic area, it is just as applicable to believers today. Scan through the first five verses of 1 Peter 1 and record what is revealed about the believer.

4. Note the reference to the *inheritance* of the believer in verse 4. Make a list of what this verse teaches about our *inheritance*.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

DAY TWO: Read 1 Peter 1:1,2

1. This letter begins with an introduction. How did Peter introduce himself?
 - a. *Apostle* means one sent forth. It also denotes authority. Think about what it must have been like for these *dispersed*, possibly homesick, Christians to receive a letter from the *Apostle* Peter. What might their reaction have been?
2. Peter addressed this letter to *pilgrims*. What does this suggest to you about a believer's perspective toward this life?
 - a. Why do you think Peter chose this word?
3. 1 Peter 1:2 describes the believer as *elect*, identifying those who choose Jesus as Savior as chosen by Him. Ponder for a moment what it might be like to choose Jesus, but to be rejected by Him. Record some of your thoughts.
 - a. Choose a few phrases or words to express your gratitude that, as one who has chosen Him, you will never face His rejection.
4. Notice the reference to the Trinity in 1 Peter 1:2. Now note the phrase *according to*. Here we see the role of God in our salvation. How does it impact you that:
 - a. God has *known* you from the beginning.
 - b. You have been *sanctified* (set apart) for His purposes.
 - c. You have been saved so that you will (and can) *obey* Him.
 - d. You have been cleansed by *the blood of Jesus Christ*.

5. The greeting of *grace and peace* was common in the early church. What two words did Peter add to the greeting?
 - a. How have you experienced God *multiplying grace and peace* in your life?

DAY THREE: Read 1 Peter 1:3

1. 1 Peter 1:3-5 is one long sentence. Peter began by praising God, using a traditional Jewish prayer, *Blessed be God*. What did he declare about God?
 - a. From the first part of this verse, what is Christ's relationship to the believer?
 - 1.) What does it mean to you that Jesus Christ is your *Lord*?
2. Peter again used the phrase *according to* in verse 3. What has God done for us *according to His abundant mercy*?
 - a. God, according to His abundant *mercy* has *begotten us* (caused us to be born-again, regenerated). Why is it important to understand that it is through God's *mercy* that we are born-again?
 - b. Notice the word *abundant* which precedes the word *mercy*. What are some synonyms for this word?
3. What does Colossians 1:27 say is *our hope of glory*?
 - a. How is this *hope* described in Hebrews 6:19?

Challenge: Define the word *hope* as it pertains to the believer.

4. We can be sure of our *living hope* because of one thing. What does 1 Peter 1:3 say Jesus did?
 - a. What does Romans 8:11 say about this?
 - b. How does knowing Christ was *raised from the dead* give you *hope* for your own resurrection?

DAY FOUR: Read 1 Peter 1:4

1. Along with a *living hope*, what does our new birth into God's family bring to us? Print the one word from 1 Peter 1:4a.

2. What do Ephesians 1:14 and Colossians 1:12 teach us about our *inheritance*?

3. One of Paul's' prayers for believers can be found in Ephesians 1:18. What are some of the *riches of your inheritance* that are meaningful to you?

4. Use synonyms or your personal response to define the impact of the following words/phrases:
 - a. *incorruptible*

 - b. *undefiled*

 - c. *does not fade away*

 - d. *reserved in heaven for you*

DAY FIVE: Read 1 Peter 1:5

1. 1 Peter 1:5 is a powerful verse. Write it below, word for word, and underline or highlight the phrase *kept by the power of God*.
 - a. Describe the *keeping power of God*.

 - b. What does Jude 1:24 reveal about this?

2. Salvation is past, present, and future. Salvation began when you believed in Christ, it is at work daily in your life, and its full completion will occur when you are with Christ in heaven. God has done His part in providing salvation. There is only one requirement for us to receive all He has done. What does 1 Peter 1:5 declare is our part in our salvation?

a. In your own words, define *faith*. Challenge: Use Scripture to support your answer.

b. List the instructions from Jude 1:20,21 that will keep us strong in *faith*.

1.) Share some practical ways that we can do this.

3. According to 1 Peter 1:5c, what is *ready to be revealed in the last time*?

a. What does it mean to you that your *inheritance/salvation* is *ready to be revealed*?

4. As time permits, look up some of the following verses and rejoice in God's keeping power:

1 Samuel 2:9

Psalm 37:24

Psalm 37:28

Proverbs 2:8

John 5:24

Romans 8:31-39

DAY SIX: Review 1 Peter 1:1-5

1. How does belonging to Christ give you a sense of being a *pilgrim* in this world?

2. With 1 Peter 1:3,4 in mind, write a brief thought about each of the following:
 - a. God's abundant mercy

 - b. born-again

 - c. living hope

 - d. our inheritance

3. Describe the keeping power of God.

4. In what way has your study of 1 Peter 1:1-5 increased your understanding or appreciation for your salvation?

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14