

# Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

## 1 Peter 5:1-7

### Lesson 12

This week we will be blessed by Peter's loving concern for the Church and his reminder of the Lord's return. The instruction was borne out of the lessons Peter learned through personal experience with Jesus. May your faith be increased to more and more *cast your cares* on the One Peter watched and walked with and proclaimed is worthy of your trust.

#### DAY ONE: Read 1 Peter 5:1-7

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 5:1-7 has been divided into two paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

#### Verses 1-4

#### Verses 5-7

How would you title each section? Record your title 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.

From previous lessons: *God, Jesus (Christ), glory, submit/submissive*

New to this lesson: *Shepherd*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Peter 5:1-7. Remember, as you mark the words *God* and *Christ*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

3. Note the term of conclusion *therefore* in verse 6. What is the conclusion made and what is it based upon?
4. Peter used the contrasting term *but* four times in this section (verses 2 [two times] 3 and 5). Choose one of them and record the contrast that Peter made.
5. Choose one of the key words from question #2 and record what you learned.

## DAY TWO: Read 1 Peter 5:1-3

1. 1 Peter 5 reveals Peter had a genuine pastor's heart for believers. In verses 1-4 he gave key instructions concerning care of the Church. To whom is this instruction given? verse 1a
  - a. *Elder* refers to an overseer or pastor. How did Peter identify himself in verse 1?
    - 1.) Think about what it must have been like to be a *witness of the sufferings of Christ* in the Garden of Gethsemane, during His trial, and crucifixion. Through this Peter became a *witness* for Christ. What did Peter declare in Acts 4:19,20?
    - 2.) Peter caught a glimpse of *the glory that shall be revealed*. Read Mark 9:2-7 and 2 Peter 1:16,17. Describe this extraordinary event.
  2. With Peter's credentials he could have ordered or commanded these elders. Rather than exerting authority over them, he exhorted (strongly encouraged) them. What did he exhort them to do in 1 Peter 5:2a?
    - a. Draw a few parallels from the *shepherd* tending his sheep and the *pastor* tending his congregation.
    - b. Read John 21:15-17 and trace the roots of Peter's exhortation to *shepherd the flock of God*.
  3. Peter wrote to these *elders*: *Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers* (1 Peter 5:2a NIV). How were they to do this? Answer from 1 Peter 5:2,3. Use other versions if you desire.
    - a. What additional principles concerning leadership are given in Mark 10:42-45?

### DAY THREE: Read 1 Peter 5:4

1. The *Chief Shepherd* and His return is the focal point of 1 Peter 5:4. What reward will be given to pastors who faithfully tend God's flock?
  - a. Focus your mind and heart on the phrase *when the Chief Shepherd appears*. How does this bless you today?

Challenge: 1 Peter 5:4 mentions *a crown of glory* as a reward. Research the topic of *crowns* given as rewards and write a brief report on your findings.

2. The portrayal of Jesus as our Shepherd is one of the most meaningful images in the Bible. From the following verses, choose a few statements about your Shepherd that minister to you:

Psalm 23:1-6

Isaiah 40:11

Matthew 18:11-14

John 10:11,14

3. The *Chief Shepherd* is coming soon! How does this motivate you to love and follow Him each day?

## DAY FOUR: Read 1 Peter 5:5,6

1. The instructions in 1 Peter 5:5,6 are essential for Christian living. After addressing the *elders* in verses 1-4, Peter directed verse 5 to the *younger*. Peter extended his instruction to include others. Observe this by writing verse 5 phrase by phrase.
  - a. *Yes, all of you be submissive to one another. No one is exempt from this. Why is humility linked to this exhortation?*
    - 1.) What do you learn about *humility* from Philippians 2:3?
  - b. Peter was present when Jesus clothed Himself with *humility*. How should His example in John 13:3-17 press us to humble service?
2. Focus on the phrase from 1 Peter 5:5c: *God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble. God resists* means He opposes or sets Himself against the *proud*. In contrast, what is promised to the *humble*?

Proverbs 3:34

Proverbs 29:23

Isaiah 57:15

Luke 18:(9-13)14
3. Think about the instruction and promise of 1 Peter 5:6 as you record this verse here.
  - a. With the promise of verse 6 in mind, read James 4:10. What do these promises mean to you?
4. In light of today's study, why do you think a *humble* attitude is so important?

## DAY FIVE: Read 1 Peter 5:7

1. Although 1 Peter 5:7 is one of the most familiar verses in 1 Peter, we often forget to apply it. Begin today's lesson by thoughtfully printing verse 7.

a. What assurance and comfort does this give you?

b. What does Psalm 55:22 add to this verse?

2. The Christians to whom Peter addressed this letter were experiencing persecution, which probably filled them with *care* (anxiety and worry). In 1 Peter 5:7 the word *casting* is literally *throwing*. They were to throw all their *cares* upon the Lord. This verse is as needed today as it was when it was written. What are the instructions of Philippians 4:6 regarding our *cares*?

a. What does Philippians 4:7 promise to those who do this?

3. Using the following verses, describe God's care for His children:

Psalm 34:15

Matthew 6:26

Luke 12:30-32

John 3:16

Hebrews 13:5,6

Challenge: List more verses that describe God's care for us

a. How do these verses minister to you in times when *cares* can be overwhelming?

## DAY SIX: Review 1 Peter 5:1-7

1. Recall what you learned from 1 Peter 5:1-4 that would help you identify a pastor with a true *shepherd's* heart.
2. In obedience to 1 Peter 5:5-7, think of a specific way you can apply the following exhortations:  
*be submissive to one another*  
  
*be clothed with humility*  
  
*humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God*  
  
*casting all your care upon Him*
  - a. Which of these particularly speaks to you today?
3. How were you challenged by this lesson to be an example to those you serve?
4. Share one thing that impacted you as you studied this lesson.

*For thus says the High and Lofty One  
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:  
"I dwell in the high and holy place,  
With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,  
To revive the spirit of the humble,  
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

*- Isaiah 57:15*