

Treasured by God; Trashed by the World

A Study of 1 Peter



Grace Church Retreat
May 5 – 6, 2023

Speaker: Chris Fishlock
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Saturday, May 6 Schedule

8:30 am – 9:30 am	Breakfast
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Session 1
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Session 2
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Seminar

Introduction: This world is not our home / we belong to God

Whole book:

- Know your God given identity (1:1 – 2:10)
- Live radical lives in line with your identity (2:9 – 3:22)
- Stand firm through suffering until home (4:1 – 5:22)

INDUCTION to the *new you*

i) A new status: Elect (v1-2)

challenge: worth / self esteem

ii) A new home: Heaven (v3-5)

challenge: what we long for

iii) A new joy: even through tough times (v6-9)

challenge: outlook on life

iv) A new privilege: the good news (v10-12)

challenge: do we value – not just the bible – but what the bible gives us?

Conclusion:

Questions for discussion:

1. We are God's elect / chosen (v1-2): how does this challenge the way I see myself in this world?

2. How much do we think about heaven (v3-5)? Be honest! What stops us? How do these verses help us get excited about heaven?

3. We have a new joy: even through tough times (v6-9). How does this challenge what we expect from this life? Why does that matter?

4. How do v10-12 help me value God's word more?

Extension questions:

a) Why does Peter start his letter like this?

b) Given what Peter has said here - Is it possible to be 'keen' without 'being extreme'?

Introduction:

Loosen your grip on this world,
by grasping the world to come

1. Think like an exile (v13)

'set your hope fully'

2. Live like an exile (v14-16)

'be holy in all your conduct'

3. Fearfully depend on God like an exile (v17- 19)

'conduct yourselves with fear'

Conclusion:

Questions for discussion:

1. When can it feel like we are missing out for being a Christian?
2. How should 'setting our hope fully' on the world to come help us?
3. If we believe that God knows best, why don't we like being told to 'be holy'? Where does this most get under the skin for us? Why is it important that a 'kill-joy / restrictive' view of God is challenged?
4. In v17 Peter says we should 'conduct ourselves with fear' as exiles. Why is a healthy fear of God good for Christians? How does v18-19 rightly motivate us?

Spend some time in prayer

Treasured by God; Trashed by the world: Seminar: 1 Peter 1v20 – 5v14

The story so far:

Talk 1: Christians must understand our new identity

Talk 2: Christians must think & live our new identity

-Seminar-

1: LOVE EACH OTHER (1v22)

Sincere brotherly love...

...as defined by and nurtured by God's Word

Questions: Think of examples of what 'sincere brotherly love' might look like? Where could we improve on showing this sort of love?

2: SPEAK UP (2v9)

We are God's own possession...

...so that we proclaim Jesus to the world

Question: How can our privileged status (2v9a) encourage us to talk to the world about Jesus (2v9b)?

3: LEAD EXCELLENT PUBLIC LIVES (2v12):

We are God's people,

...so we should be God's People...

...to make others God's people.

Question: Why do we like to keep our Christian faith private? How do these verses encourage us to go more public?

4: YOU WILL SUFFER (4v3-4)

Not joining in with the world

...means you will get teased / ridiculed / worse

Questions: We often want to 'jump back in'.... How does the reality of judgement day help to motivate us to stand firm as Christians? How will standing firm help our non-Christian friends?

5: STAND FIRM (5v8-14)

Be sober minded and watchful

Watch out for the devil – esp his roar!

Questions? Pray together!