

1 Peter - Study Companion

A printable guide for tracing identity, holiness, suffering, submission, hope, grace, and faithful conduct across all five chapters

Don't take my word for it - Open your Bible.

READ • OBSERVE • ANSWER • COMPARE • TEST • INTERPRET

Use this Companion beside an open Bible and the full 1 Peter study at OpenYourBible.org. Read the assigned passage first. Record what you actually see before consulting commentary. The questions mirror the authoritative study manuscript so your notes stay aligned with the teaching.

Name: _____

Date started: _____

Study completed: _____

Study Progress

Session	Passage	Done
1. Before You Read 1 Peter	1 Peter 1-5	☐
2. Chosen Exiles With a Living Hope	1 Peter 1:1-12	☐
3. Holiness Because the One Who Called You Is Holy	1 Peter 1:13-25; Leviticus 11:44-45; Leviticus 19:1-2; Isaiah 40:6-8	☐
4. A People Being Built Together	1 Peter 2:1-10; Psalm 34:8; Exodus 19:3-6; Isaiah 28:16; Psalm 118:22; Hosea 1-2	☐
5. Honorable Conduct, Human Authority, and Unjust Treatment	1 Peter 2:11-25; Exodus 1:15-21; Daniel 3; Acts 5:27-29; Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Matthew 10:23; Acts 22:22-29	☐
6. Marriage, Submission, and a God Who Watches How Power Is Used	1 Peter 3:1-12; Genesis 21:8-13; Psalm 34:12-18	☐
7. Suffering, Hope, and the Difficult Passage About Spirits in Prison	1 Peter 3:13-22; Genesis 6-9; 1 Peter 1:3	☐

Session	Passage	Done
8. A Changed Life Will Sometimes Look Strange	1 Peter 4:1-11; Proverbs 10:12	☐
9. Do Not Call Every Consequence Persecution	1 Peter 4:12-19	☐
10. Shepherds, Anxiety, and Standing Firm in Grace	1 Peter 5:1-14; Mark 10:42-45	☐
11. Open Your Bible - The Whole Letter	1 Peter 1-5	☐

How to Use the Who You Are -> How You Live Lens

After each major session, pause long enough to name four things: the identity Peter gives, the conduct he expects because of that identity, the pressure or threat that could distort that conduct, and the hope or promise Peter gives for remaining faithful. Do not use the lens to flatten every passage into the same answer. Its purpose is to help you see Peter's repeated movement from belonging to behavior.

Session 1 - Before You Read 1 Peter

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 1-5

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What repeated descriptions does Peter give his readers when you read the whole letter straight through?

2. What commands appear repeatedly, and which identities seem to support those commands?

3. What kinds of suffering or social pressure does Peter actually describe?

4. Where does Peter quote or echo earlier Scripture?

5. What do you notice about the relationship between grace, holiness, obedience, and hope?

6. Where does Peter discuss human authority, and what limits or responsibilities surround it?

7. Which passages raise interpretive questions you want to investigate rather than assume?

8. Before studying the details, how would you summarize Peter's answer to the question: Who are these people, and how should they live?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 2 - Chosen Exiles With a Living Hope

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 1:1-12

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What descriptions does Peter give his readers in verses 1-2?

2. How can someone be both chosen and an exile?

3. Why might Peter establish their identity before discussing suffering?

4. What causes Peter to praise Yehovah?

5. What produces the believer's living hope?

6. How does Peter describe the inheritance?

7. Does Peter deny that trials produce grief?

8. How can grief and hope exist at the same time?

9. What comparison does Peter make between faith and gold?

10. Is Peter saying suffering is automatically good simply because it hurts?

11. What were the Prophets searching and inquiring about?

12. How does Peter connect the gospel with the earlier Scriptures?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects

Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 3 - Holiness Because the One Who Called You Is Holy

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 1:13-25; Leviticus 11:44-45; Leviticus 19:1-2; Isaiah 40:6-8

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What does Peter tell believers to set their hope upon?

2. What former patterns should obedient children stop conforming to?

3. Why should believers be holy?

4. Where does Peter obtain the command 'Be holy, because I am holy'?

5. What does that reveal about Peter's view of Yehovah's earlier instructions?

6. Does Peter present grace and holiness as opposites?

7. How is biblical holiness different from merely looking unusual?

8. What does Peter say redeemed his readers?

9. Does Peter explicitly identify Yehovah's Torah as the 'futile way' from which they were redeemed?

10. How does Peter connect obedience to truth with love?

11. What does Isaiah say endures when human glory fades?

12. How should new birth affect the way believers treat one another?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 4 - A People Being Built Together

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 2:1-10; Psalm 34:8; Exodus 19:3-6; Isaiah 28:16; Psalm 118:22; Hosea 1-2

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What behaviors does Peter tell believers to put away?

2. How would those behaviors damage a community?

3. What should believers desire instead?

4. What is the purpose of that nourishment?

5. What images does Peter use for Yeshua?

6. What images does he use for believers?

7. Are the living stones being built individually or together?

8. Which descriptions echo Exodus 19?

9. What language echoes Hosea?

10. What should we avoid forcing this one passage to settle about every question concerning Israel and Gentile believers?

11. What purpose does Peter attach to being called out of darkness?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects

Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 5 - Honorable Conduct, Human Authority, and Unjust Treatment

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 2:11-25; Exodus 1:15-21; Daniel 3; Acts 5:27-29; Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Matthew 10:23; Acts 22:22-29

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What kind of conduct does Peter want outsiders to observe?

2. Does honorable conduct guarantee believers will never be falsely accused?

3. How does Peter describe Christian freedom?

4. What four commands appear in verse 17?

5. Who receives fear, and who receives honor?

6. What do the wider Scriptures reveal about the limits of human authority?

7. Who is Peter directly addressing in verses 18-25?

8. Why is it inaccurate to flatten ancient household slavery into ordinary employment?

9. Does Peter explicitly declare slavery morally ideal?

10. What distinction does he make between suffering for wrongdoing and suffering for doing good?

11. How does Peter connect Yeshua's suffering with Isaiah 53?

12. What does Yeshua refuse to do when mistreated?

13. Do the wider Scriptures show faithful people ever fleeing danger or using legal protections?

14. Why should Peter's teaching not be used to require indefinite exposure to abuse?

15. What does Yeshua's example teach about refusing to let another person's evil reproduce itself in us?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
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Session 6 - Marriage, Submission, and a God Who Watches How Power Is Used

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 3:1-12; Genesis 21:8-13; Psalm 34:12-18

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What kind of husbands does Peter specifically mention in verses 1-2?

2. What does Peter hope those husbands may observe?

3. Does 'without a word' necessarily mean a wife may never speak about her faith?

4. What kind of beauty does Peter emphasize?

5. Why should Sarah's fuller Genesis story remain in view?

6. What responsibilities does Peter place upon husbands?

7. What might 'weaker vessel' mean, and what does Peter not say it means?

8. What does 'fellow heirs of the grace of life' say about spiritual standing?

9. What warning does Peter give husbands concerning prayer?

10. How should that warning shape any theology of marital authority?

11. What qualities does Peter then require from the whole community?

12. How does Psalm 34 connect speech, peace, righteousness, and Yehovah's care?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 7 - Suffering, Hope, and the Difficult Passage About Spirits in Prison

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 3:13-22; Genesis 6-9; 1 Peter 1:3

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. Does Peter promise faithful people will never suffer?

2. What should believers do with fear?

3. What are they supposed to be ready to explain?

4. What manner should characterize that explanation?

5. How does the context of suffering affect your understanding of apologetics?

6. What does Peter say Yeshua's suffering accomplished?

7. How does Peter connect the passage with Noah?

8. What details concerning the 'spirits in prison' remain unexplained?

9. What major interpretations have been proposed?

10. What is unquestionably clear about Yeshua's position in verse 22?

11. What exact statement does Peter make about baptism?

12. What does he say baptism is not?

13. What does he connect baptism with?

14. Why is Yeshua's resurrection essential to the passage?

15. Why should we preserve Peter's language without pretending the passage resolves every later sacramental debate?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 8 - A Changed Life Will Sometimes Look Strange

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 4:1-11; Proverbs 10:12

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What former behaviors does Peter say should be left behind?

2. How do outsiders respond when believers stop participating?

3. Why might changed conduct provoke hostility?

4. What does Peter say about the judgment of the living and the dead?

5. What does verse 6 say about the gospel and 'the dead'?

6. What major interpretations have been proposed?

7. What does the verse clearly affirm even where details remain disputed?

8. What does Peter say believers should do because 'the end' is near?

9. What might 'love covers a multitude of sins' mean in light of Proverbs?

10. Why should the phrase not be used to hide abuse or prevent accountability?

11. What qualification does Peter attach to hospitality?

12. How does Peter describe spiritual gifts?

13. Who owns the grace being stewarded?

14. What should speaking and serving ultimately accomplish?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
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Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 9 - Do Not Call Every Consequence Persecution

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 4:12-19

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What does Peter tell believers not to be surprised by?

2. What kinds of wrongdoing does he explicitly name?

3. Does Peter treat consequences for wrongdoing as persecution?

4. Why is that distinction important?

5. What does Peter say about suffering as a believer?

6. To whom should believers entrust themselves?

7. What should they continue doing while suffering?

8. How can religious language about persecution be misused to avoid accountability?

9. How might you distinguish suffering because of righteousness from suffering because of your own conduct?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 10 - Shepherds, Anxiety, and Standing Firm in Grace

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 5:1-14; Mark 10:42-45

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What responsibilities does Peter give elders?

2. What motives does he reject?

3. What does he explicitly forbid leaders from doing?

4. Who owns the flock?

5. What method of leadership does Peter emphasize instead of domination?

6. How does Peter's instruction echo Yeshua in Mark 10?

7. Who is commanded to practice humility?

8. How does this establish limits around spiritual authority?

9. What does Peter tell believers to do with anxiety?

10. Why can casting anxiety upon Yehovah be an act of humility?

11. What does Peter say about the adversary?

12. How should believers respond?

13. What prevents vigilance from becoming panic?

14. What does Yehovah promise to do after suffering?

15. What does Peter call the message he has written?

16. What does it mean to stand firm in the true grace of God?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Session 11 - Open Your Bible - The Whole Letter

OPEN YOUR BIBLE 1 Peter 1-5

Read the passage before answering. Record the evidence first. Let Scripture interpret Scripture, and distinguish what the text states from what requires inference.

1. What identities does Peter give his readers?

2. Which identity becomes most significant after reading the whole letter?

3. How does Peter connect grace with obedience?

4. Where does Peter use Leviticus to explain holiness?

5. Where does he use Exodus language to describe the believing community?

6. Where does he echo Hosea?

7. What does this reveal about Peter's relationship to the Scriptures Yehovah had already given?

8. How does Peter distinguish suffering for righteousness from suffering for wrongdoing?

9. Where does Peter command submission?

10. What limits and responsibilities surround those commands?

11. What does Peter require from husbands?

12. What does he require from elders?

13. What should human rulers receive, and what belongs uniquely to Yehovah?

14. How does Yeshua's suffering function as an example?

15. Why should Yeshua's suffering not be used to require indefinite exposure to abuse?

16. What does Peter explicitly say concerning baptism?

17. Which details concerning the spirits in prison remain uncertain?

18. Why is it important to distinguish textual certainty from interpretive possibility?

19. What role does love play in a community under pressure?

20. What role does hospitality play?

21. How should believers use spiritual gifts?

22. What does Peter say about elders lording authority over others?

23. What should believers do with anxiety?

24. How should they resist the adversary?

25. What does Peter mean by standing firm in grace?

26. How can believers live as exiles without becoming hostile toward outsiders?

27. What part of First Peter most challenges your understanding of holiness?

28. What part most challenges your understanding of submission?

29. What part most challenges your understanding of suffering?

30. If Peter's pattern is Who You Are -> How You Live, where does your conduct most need to catch up with the identity Yehovah has given you?

Who You Are -> How You Live

Identity Peter gives	Conduct Peter expects
Pressure / threat	Hope / promise

Final Synthesis

Use this page after completing the whole-letter questions. Write a short paragraph for each line rather than a slogan.

How does Peter define the believer before he describes the believer's obligations?

What does holiness look like across the whole letter rather than in one isolated verse?

What limits does Peter place around human authority?

How does Peter distinguish faithful suffering from consequences for wrongdoing?

What does grace produce in the life of the community?

How can believers live as exiles without becoming hostile outsiders?

What part of your conduct most needs to catch up with the identity Peter says Yehovah has given you?
