



**1 PETER**  
**COURAGEOUS**



## **Outline**

Week 1: Living in Hope During Times of Trouble

1 Peter 1:1-5

Week 2: Testing Authenticity in a Counterfeit World

1 Peter 1:6-12

Week 3: Leading with a Sober Mind and Pure Heart

1 Peter 1:13-25

Week 4: Building Up with Living Stones

1 Peter 2:1-12

Week 5: Loving the Church, Fearing God, and Honoring the King

1 Peter 2:13-3:7

Week 6: Seeing The Difference Between Suffering and Evil

1 Peter 3:8-22

Week 7: Walking with a Clear-mind and Self-control

1 Peter 4:1-11

Week 8: Believing through Suffering

1 Peter 4:12-19

Week 9: Finding Humility and the Freedom from Anxiety

1 Peter 5:1-11

Week 10: Choosing The Way of the Strong, Firm, and Steadfast

1 Peter 5:12-14



## **Week 1: Living in Hope During Times of Trouble**

### **1 Peter 1:1-5**

How does Peter describe the inheritance that awaits believers in Jesus Christ?

How do you think Peter's message is relevant to us 2,000 years later and halfway across the globe?

In what sense is our hope in God a "living hope"?

How does the eternal perspective of a living hope clarify our earthly purpose during times of trouble?

## **Week 2: Testing Authenticity in a Counterfeit World**

### **1 Peter 1:6-12**

What role or purpose does Peter say trials play in our lives (1:7)?

What do we learn about Jesus?

What can you meditate on and and rest in for this coming week?

Under what fiery circumstances and situations has your faith in Jesus become more genuine through melting it down to its essentials?

What does this passage ask us to believe, and what does this passage ask us to do because of these beliefs?

### **Week 3: Leading with a Sober Mind and Pure Heart**

#### **1 Peter 1:13-25**

How would you define “holy” based on the five commands Peter gives in verses 13-15?

This passage echoes the frequent New Testament command that believers must love one another (1:22). How would you describe this kind of love we are called to show to one another? Why might that be important in the current reality we all are living in?

What truths from this passage encourage us to find our hope in what is not perishable but imperishable?

What does a Sober Mind and Pure Heart look like at home, work, church, neighborhood, etc.?

## **Week 4: Building Up with Living Stones**

### **1 Peter 2:1-12**

How do each of the four “stone” metaphors found in 2:4-8 describe Jesus well?

What similarities does Peter connect between the life of Christ and what Real Life looks like for us?

In what ways do you think it would be difficult to think of yourselves in the terms used in verses 9-10? Is this what Peter thinks they will become, or are they these things already? Why do you think that?

How does knowing you are each of these four things (chosen people, royal priesthood, God’s possession, transformed by mercy) affect your relationship with (and thoughts and actions toward) God, other believers, and unbelievers?

## **Week 5: Loving the Church, Fearing God, and Honoring the King 1 Peter 2:13-3:7**

How do the verbs in verse 17 help us define what Peter means by submission?

How should “living as servants of God” affect the way we submit to others (2:16)?

Compare Paul’s assertive actions in Acts 16:35-37 with Peter’s call to submission here. When is it better to oppose injustice?

What would you expect to see in a marriage built on mutual submission and consideration?

How might the description of Jesus in verses 21-25 be especially helpful in situations beyond our control?

## **Week 6: Seeing The Difference Between Suffering and Evil**

### **1 Peter 3:8-22**

In 1 Peter 3:8-12, Peter lists five things we need to have to be able to relate rightly to one another. What are they and how would you explain them? Which of the five things is hardest for you to demonstrate to other believers? Which is easiest? Why?

Read Hebrews 5:7-8, Hebrews 2:10, 2 Corinthians 12:7, and 2 Corinthians 1:3-6. Peter addresses not just the way followers of Christ suffer, but the way Christ himself suffered. How did the verses listed with this question shape our understanding of the purpose of suffering?

As opposed to being afraid of what the world fears (v. 14), what does Peter mean by setting apart Christ as Lord (v. 15)?

In your opinion, does 1 Peter 3:18-22 continue the theme of submission or move on to another one? Why or why not?

How does the REAL person of Jesus, his person, his life, his death, his resurrection, give encouragement in times of suffering?

## **Week 7: Walking with a Clear-mind and Self-control**

### **1 Peter 4:1-11**

How does Peter describe prayer? What do you think of this description?

How might that change the way we pray and walk in life?

What fact about spiritual gifts does Peter assume to be true? Based on this fact, are there gifts you or others have identified in you? Are any untapped and why might you be holding back?

In light of verses 7-11, where do you need to give special attention to how you follow Jesus?

## **Week 8: Believing through Suffering**

### **1 Peter 4:12-19**

Peter mentions the possibility of glorifying God in the midst of suffering. How might this be possible?

What does it mean to partake in Christ's suffering?

When you feel like giving up and not continuing, what keeps you going?

If you were asked to tell a group of new believers in Jesus what to expect in the Christian life based on your experiences, what are some things you would tell them?

## **Week 9: Finding Humility and the Freedom from Anxiety**

### **1 Peter 5:1-11**

What do you learn about God from this passage? What actions and attributes of His are noted?

What are the roles and tasks of a shepherd (5:2)? What makes this a fitting analogy for a church leader (and perhaps any leader)?

According to Peter, what is involved in exhibiting true humility?

How does the message of 1 Peter 5:6-7 summarize Peter's thoughts on submission?

Do you think that 1 Peter 5:10 describes what God will do for us here (on earth) or hereafter (in heaven)? Explain your answer.

In Christ, how does finding humility bring freedom from anxiety?

## **Week 10: Choosing The Way of the Strong, Firm, and Steadfast 1 Peter 5:12-14**

What can we learn about the early church from the way Peter speaks of Silvanus (“faithful brother”), Mark (“my son”), and his greeting of choice (“greet one another with the kiss of love”)?

If Jesus was betrayed by Judas’ “kiss of death”, what would be the equivalent meaning of someone’s “kiss of love”?

Skimming this letter for one minute, reflecting on things we have discussed together, how has Peter encouraged these believers and in turn us as well?

What is a pressure you face that causes you to waver in your trust in Jesus? What from this letter has helped you to choose the way of the strong, firm, and steadfast?

Each of us makes up the body of Christ—the Church. If so, how does each of us as a part of Rockbridge Church continue to prioritize and pursue deep relationships with one another and others?





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