

D I F F E R E N T

1 Peter - Living a Life that's Different

Key Scriptures

This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. 1 Peter 1:1 NLT

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. ... 1 Peter 1:6-7 NLT

How does God use your trials?

1. Trials reveal your faith.

These trials will show that your faith is genuine. ... 1 Peter 1:7 NLT

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Luke 22:31-32 NIV

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4 NIV

2. Trials draw you closer to God.

You love [God] even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9 NLT

Session

Start talking. Just enjoy conversation within your group. Be aware some people might be new to your group.

- Share how long you've been part of this church, and something "different" about you.
- Is there anything that stands out to you from the message?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read 1 Peter 1:1. How can you identify as a foreigner, exile, stranger, or some one on a journey?
- Why do you think God doesn't keep you from experiencing any trials?

Start sharing. Choose a question, you can cover them all or just one or two.

- Think of a time when a trial revealed your faith. In your opinion what kind of faith did it show: inherited faith, shallow faith, conditional faith, or genuine faith?
- Have you ever experienced a trial that brought you closer to God? What caused you to move closer to God instead of moving away from Him?
- What trial are you facing right now? How can you begin to trust God with it?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Heavenly Father, thank You for this housegroup of friends. We ask You to grow in us a faith that is rooted and can be trusted. Draw us closer to You, God. We give You our worries, and we commit to trust in You. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Read 1 Peter 1 v 1-25
- Start each day by committing your worries, challenges and disappointments to God in prayer. Pray that you will trust Him in all things and situations.
- Talk with someone you trust about what makes you different.