



Grace in the Wilderness | A Study on the Book of 1 Peter

Week 1 - Overview

Debbie Stuart

Author: Peter

Purpose: to offer encouragement and promote spiritual growth

Key Verse:

“These trials are only to test your faith, so if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.” (1 Peter 1:7 NLT)

Key Concepts:

1. Trails can refine your faith and make you strong. (vs. 7-9)
 - a. They are temporary and they are a test.
 - b. They are preparation and part of a refining process.
 - c. They are intended to strengthen your faith and make you useful to God.
2. Have Faithful Behavior - Live Holy lives. (vs. 14-16)
3. Have the right attitudes and perspectives. Become like Christ.

Key Lessons:

1. Learn how to cast our cares on Jesus.
2. Recognize and be alert to Satan’s tactics.
3. Prepare our lives to give a reason for the hope we have.

Key Life Experience for Peter: Luke 22:31-32

Permission was granted by Jesus for Satan to SIFT Peter.

1. Shake something until it comes apart.
2. Examine thoroughly so as to isolate that which is most important or useful.
3. BLB - by inward agitation to try one's faith to the verge of overthrow.
 - a. Purpose for “season of sifting”:
 - i. Sifted for greater service.
 - ii. Sifted to soften your heart.
 - iii. Sifted so you can strengthen others.

Discussion Questions:

1. What part of the message was most helpful/meaningful to you and why?
2. Discuss Peter's "sifting situation". (*Luke 22:31-32*)
3. List 2-3 reasons why God would allow a person to be sifted.
 - a. Compare 1 Peter to other passages you know about why God allows difficulties and trials.
 - b. Helpful Hint: *James 1:1-4* and *Romans 8:28*
 - c. How does *1 Cor. 10:12-13* play into this season of testing and sifting?
 - d. Don't lean toward your own interpretation of "why" but LOOK into scriptures and let God's Word tell you why.
4. What can we learn from Peter's experience and God's Word about it?

 mimiy@gabc.org

 903.525.1141

 greenacreswomen.org

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