

## **Living Hope**

### Week 15 – Strength for Battle

**Transition:** Picking up where we left off, Peter shifted gears from the topic of suffering to address the type of leaders God has called to lead his church, and how they are to lead.

**Check Point:** Would anyone like to share something they worked on from last week's discussion?

**Context:** In today's text, Peter exhorts believers to humble themselves before God and stay alert against the devil's schemes. God assures them that he will strengthen, restore, confirm, and establish them during their suffering.

#### **Opening Questions:**

- What do you find effective in helping you remain calm when you feel anxious or overwhelmed?
- Have you ever experienced a time when you felt encouraged or strengthened in a difficult situation? Share your story with the group.

**Scripture/Storying:** 1 Peter 5:6-11

#### **Discipleship Questions:**

- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?
- What does genuine humility before God look like in your everyday experiences? How does humility before God assist believers in battles against the devil?
- One manner a Christians can demonstrate humility is by casting all their anxiety on Christ. How does a refusal to do this indicate a lack of humility? How does casting your cares on God practically work for you in moments of fear?
- What comes to your mind when you think of sober mindedness and watchfulness? How would both be of value in your battle against the enemy? What distracts you from sober mindedness and watchfulness? What are some practical ways you can stay spiritually sober minded and alert in our culture?
- How does a firm foundation in the faith help believers resist the enemy? How can believers encourage one another to remain strong in the faith when under attack by the devil?
- Peter says Christians around the world face similar sufferings. How can knowing this help a believer when it comes to resisting the devil?
- How have you seen God restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you when you have been doing battle with the enemy? How does this promise encourage you now?
- How does worship factor in when it comes to battling the devil? If you have one, share a time when worshipping God helped you to battle the schemes of the devil.

#### **Prayer time: - Joni & Friends**

- Pray for their upcoming Inclusive Worship Night located at Providence Church on May 19th!
- Pray that the Lord will raise enough volunteers for their upcoming Family Retreats in July and that He will lead and guide their staff as they finish preparations.