

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of November 6-12, 2022

“REALITIES OF THE CHOSEN”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Have you ever been mistaken for someone else? Or have you mistaken someone for another person? What happened?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 PETER 1:1-12.

1. Peter is the author of this letter. What are some of the characteristics of Peter (positive and negative) that you remember? Who were the recipients of the letter? What did it mean when Peter referred to them as “elect exiles” (ESV)? What is the significant of that?
2. “Christians are strangers residing on the earth whose home is in heaven.” What do you think about this? Do you ever feel like a stranger in this world? When? What are the circumstances? How does this statement change the way how you see life in this world?
3. What God says about us matters much more than what we see or happens around us. What does Peter say about how we should view ourselves? How does this affect our choices? Finish this sentence:

I am a child of God, therefore _____.
4. Peter talks about the inheritance of the believer (verse 4) and will repeat this several times in his letter. What do you understand is your inheritance as a Christian (See also Ephesians 1:11, Colossians 3:24, Hebrews 9:15)? How should this impact you as a believer?
5. In verse 6, Peter talks about rejoicing in trials. Do you find this contradictory or just a simple ideal (but not a reality) of the Christian life? Can you think of or share of specific examples and/or experiences of this?
6. What do you think about Peter’s analogy about faith being tested as genuine, like gold refined by fire (verse 7)? In what way does this happen in the Christian life?

7. Read 1 Peter 1:13. In light of everything that Peter has said so far, he encourages the readers to prepare themselves mentally to set their hope on grace, associated with a coming revelation of Jesus Christ. Is “hoping” a mental effort? How do we ourselves maintain hope when hope is difficult?

8. NEXT STEPS

Our condition in this world may be shaky, but our position with God is solid.

- I will remember who I am in Christ.
- I will set my hope in Jesus and rejoice even in the midst of trials.
- I will live with the right priorities as an exile in this world.
- God is my greatest blessing and I will share him to those in need of his grace.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for the right perspective and priorities in this life as a Christian.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

November 7	1 Peter 1:6-9
November 8	1 Peter 1:10-12
November 9	1 Peter 1:13-16
November 10	1 Peter 1:17-21
November 11	1 Peter 1:22-25
November 12	Micah 7:1-7
November 13	1 Peter 2:1-3