

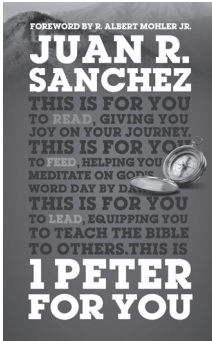
Juan R. Sanchez Jr.

1 Peter

*Living Well on the
Way Home*



📖 **6-Session Bible Study**



1 Peter For You

These studies are adapted from *1 Peter For You*. If you are reading *1 Peter For You* alongside this Good Book Guide, here is how the studies in this booklet link to the chapters of *1 Peter For You*:

Study 1 > Ch 1-2	Study 4 > Ch 6
Study 2 > Ch 3-4	Study 5 > Ch 7
Study 3 > Ch 5	Study 6 > Ch 8-10

Find out more about *1 Peter For You* at:
www.thegoodbook.com/for-you

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Introduction

One of the Bible writers described God's word as "a lamp for my feet, a light on my path" (Psalm 119:105, NIV). God gave us the Bible to tell us about who he is and what he wants for us. He speaks through it by his Spirit and lights our way through life.

That means that we need to look carefully at the Bible and uncover its meaning—but we also need to apply what we've discovered to our lives.

Good Book Guides are designed to help you do just that. The sessions in this book are interactive and easy to lead. They're perfect for use in groups or for personal study.

Let's take a look at what is included in each session.

Talkabout: Every session starts with an ice-breaker question, designed to get people talking around a subject that links to the Bible study.

Investigate: These questions help you explore what the passage is about.

Apply: These questions are designed to get you thinking practically: what does this Bible teaching mean for you and your church?

Explore More: These optional sections help you to go deeper or to explore another part of the Bible which connects with the main passage.

Getting Personal: These sections are a chance for personal reflection. Some groups may feel comfortable discussing these, but you may prefer to look at them quietly as individuals instead—or leave them out.

Pray: Here, you're invited to pray in the light of the truths and challenges you've seen in the study.

Each session is also designed to be easily split into two! Watch out for the **Apply** section that comes halfway through, and stop there if you haven't got time to do the whole thing in one go.

In the back of the book, you'll find a **Leader's Guide**, which provides helpful notes on every question, along with everything else that group leaders need in order to facilitate a great session and help the group uncover the riches of God's light-giving word.

Why Study 1 Peter?

Here is a letter written to churches like ours, about a time such as ours. Peter's first letter is one we need to read, treasure, and believe in our day, because the post-Christian societies many of us live in now are very much like the pre-Christian society in which Peter's 1st-century readers lived then. Here is a letter for today.

Like the Christians in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey) to whom Peter was writing, most of us don't face universal, state-sponsored persecution at this time—but we are encountering the reality of increasing hostility toward anything Christian as we live in a culture in which we are likely to be discriminated against simply because we identify with Christ.

We need Peter to teach us how to face the reality that following Christ and obeying what he commands makes us different—we are aliens and strangers in a foreign land. We need to learn how to endure unjust suffering in a society where Christianity is unwelcome. We need to remember what the identity and purpose of our local churches are in communities that see them as irrelevant. We need to learn how to live with joy and hope and love when we are mocked and maligned and misunderstood because of what we believe and how we live.

And in order to live like that, we need to be reminded of the "true grace of God" in which we can, and must, "stand firm" (5:12).

These six studies will excite you, reassure you, and challenge you about your life now, as Peter shows you how to live well on the way home to your inheritance that (unlike everything in this world) is "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading" (1:4).



1 Peter 60s AD

1

Certain Future, Joyful Present

1 Peter 1:1-12

Talkabout

1. What do you expect the Christian life to be like between here and heaven?

- What makes you answer like that?

Investigate

 Read 1 Peter 1:1-5

DICTIONARY

Dispersion (v 1): scattering; a word often used to describe the Jewish people who, after the exile, lived all over the Mediterranean world.

Sanctification (v 2): the process of setting apart; here, it means the Spirit enabling people to trust Christ and be saved.

Sprinkling with his blood (v 2):
in the Old Testament, a sacrificed
animal's blood was sprinkled on the

people to show that the animal's
death had made possible their
forgiveness.

2. How does the apostle Peter describe the Christians in what is now modern-day Turkey whom he is writing to (v 1)?

E _____

E _____

- What does this tell us about how Peter wants us to view our relationship with God?

- What does it tell us about how Peter wants us to view our life in this world?

3. What have the three Persons of the Trinity done for each Christian (v 2)?
Put each phrase into your own words.

4. What has "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" done for his people (v 3-4)?

5. How could Peter’s first readers—and we—know they would reach this inheritance (v 5)? Why is this encouraging?

Apply

6. How do these verses encourage us to live for what we will have in the future, rather than what we could have in our present?

7. In what areas of life would thinking of yourselves as “elect exiles” change the way you think, feel, or act?

Getting Personal | OPTIONAL

Does the description of Christians as “elect exiles” comfort you, discomfort you, or both? How, and why?

In what areas of your life do you need to stop compromising and start living as an exile? Are there ways in which you are living as an exile, and need to remember you are elect so that you keep going?

Investigate

 Read 1 Peter 1:6-12

DICTIONARY

Revelation (v 7): Peter is referring to the return of Christ.

8. How is it possible—and right—for Christians to rejoice in trials (v 6-9)?

9. How is this different than how the world links trials and joy?

10. How are believers who live after Christ's death and resurrection in a privileged position compared to...

- the Old Testament prophets (v 10-12)?

- the angels in heaven (v 12)?

Explore More | OPTIONAL

What did the Spirit do in Old Testament times (v 11)?

 **Read Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12**

- How does this prophecy point forwards to “the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories”?
- Why is it a privilege to read it now, after Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, rather than to hear it as Isaiah’s first listeners did?
- What else has the Spirit done (1 Peter 1:12)?
- Briefly share how he did this for you.

Apply

11. What stops us from greatly rejoicing during “various trials”?

- How can we unwittingly discourage fellow Christians from rejoicing when they suffer?

- How can we consciously encourage each other to rejoice in these times?

Getting Personal | OPTIONAL

What trials are you facing right now? What grief are you experiencing?

You do not have to ignore it or seek to belittle it; but neither must you despair in it or be crushed by it. If you have trusted in Christ, God is at work in your life, and he will not waste your suffering. Keep trusting in Christ; keep loving Jesus. Remember the living hope you have; remember the inheritance you will enjoy; look at how God has guarded your faith through your trials; know that God is refining your faith in those trials—and rejoice!

In what way do you need to apply this encouragement? Is there someone who needs you to share it with them?

Pray

Use verses 3-5 to spend time praising God.

Pray for yourselves, and those you know who are facing “various trials,” that those difficulties would show you the genuineness of your faith and that your certain future would enable you to rejoice.