



The Essentials: 1 and 2 Peter

Session 7

1 Peter 5: 1 – 14

Opening Collect

Together: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Watch Video

Read: 1 Peter 5: 1 – 14

Discussion:

1. Read vv. 1-5. What are the characteristics of true humility? Why is humility important?
2. In v. 6 Peter refers to both the might *and* the goodness of God. How might that be a resource for appropriate humility?
3. According to v. 6 what does humility lead to? How might humility open our lives to God's care?
4. Most of us do not think of an adversary (v. 8) within our daily lives. And yet many people also think of violence, addiction, and greed as more than circumstantial. Can you name any challenges in your life that seem almost adversarial?
5. What might it look like for you to "stand firm" in the grace of God (v. 12)?

Check in and Closing Prayer

1 Peter 5: 1 – 14

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you ²to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it, not for sordid gain but eagerly. ³Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. ⁴And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. ⁵In the same way, you who are younger must be subject to the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for

“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

¹²Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. ¹³Your sister church^[i] in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son Mark. ¹⁴Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.