

For Pete's Sake

LifeGroup Lesson

July 2, 2017

1 Peter 1:1-9

OPENING PRAYER:

Amazing God, speak to us in clarity and wisdom. Clear the cloudiness of our vision and renew our strength. Keep us focused on new life and acts of courageous love. In the name of the risen One. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?
- Describe a difficult time in your life where your faith grew in the process?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:¹

Our summer series will include reading through the entire letters of 1 and 2 Peter.

Begin by reading 1 Peter 1:1-12

- How does v. 2 inform your understanding of the Trinity? What does this description mean for your faith?
- What does it mean for you to be chosen by God (v. 2)?
- Peter discusses new birth. How did your life change when you encountered Jesus? How can your life change from this moment?
- In v. 6-7, what perspective does Peter give suffering? How will these verses influence how you deal with suffering?
- In times of crisis do you tend to lean more on God or blame God? Does suffering make you bitter or better?
- How does the future that Peter describes in this passage offer you hope?

This letter begins with a discussion on hope and eternal life. Read the following passages, what do they say to you about the Kingdom of Heaven and your relationship with Jesus Christ?

1 Corinthians 15:19-26, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Revelation 7:9-17, Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 13:24-37

NEXT STEPS:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- This week read 1 and 2 Peter.
- Make a spiritual bucket list. What do you want to accomplish spiritually until you enter into eternal life?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

The sun rises shining brightly in the east.

The whole world reveals the wonders of the Lord.

A hundred flowers blossom; a hundred birds sing.

Everything bears witness to the mystery of God.

Raising our eyes to heaven, we see Creation.

With hearts full of joy, we recite our prayers.

We look to the Lord for illumination and guidance,

In thoughts, words and deeds, we follow the path of righteousness.

-Kim-Kwong Chan and Alan Hunter,

Prayers and Thoughts of Chinese Christians