

COMPELLING WORSHIP

From the series – 1 PETER: COMPELLING CHURCH

Welcome to 1st Peter! Over the next nine weeks, we will walk through the Apostle Peter's letter to the Jewish and Gentile Christians who had been scattered throughout Asia Minor. From the world's perspective, these Christ-followers were rejected refugees (*exiles*) displaced from their homes (*most likely Rome*), but from God's perspective, they were His elect, chosen by God to be citizens in His Kingdom.

The goal of this study is to recognize that our lives are examples for those around us, and this can be adverse or inviting. Ultimately, we seek to live in such a way that would **compel people towards Christ**. That no matter our circumstances, situations, or suffering, our response to all things would reflect the eternal hope we have in the Kingdom of God.

BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. Read [1 Peter 1:1](#) – Peter identifies himself as the author of this letter which might seem insignificant at first glance, after all, He's an Apostle. But in view of Peter's [backstory](#), what encouragement should all Christians take to heart with Peter's letter?
2. How does [1 Peter 1:1-3](#) describe those he is writing to? How might this language ('*elect*', '*God's chosen people*', and '*born again*') encourage and help those who have been dispersed and are now refugees throughout Asia Minor? How do these descriptions encourage you as a Christ-follower? How does knowing who we are help shape how we live?
3. Read [1 Peter 1:3-5](#). What words and descriptions jump out at you? Do you live with this 'great expectation'? If not, what holds you back? If so, what does this mean/look like practically, day-to-day? What could it look like in today's culture? What does Peter say about the promise of the inheritance that God gives us, and how does that encourage you this side of heaven?
4. Read [1 Peter 1:6-9](#) – Suffering is a reality of life, something Jesus promised would come our way (see [John 16](#)). If God allows suffering to come our way (and He does), according to Peter, what purpose does suffering serve to accomplish in our lives? How is it possible to both have joy and suffering at the same time? Think about trials or suffering that you have experienced; in what ways were you able to feel hopeful or sense joy in the trial? How could suffering lead to compelling worship?

Reflect

COMPROMISE – CONFRONTATION – COMPELLING

Which word best describes you, and how could you live a compelling life?