

## 1 Peter 5

1. Does the Word of God teach us that if we suffer we will never sin again?

-No.

-It means that we do not live our lives on earth “for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.”

2. Are all human desires on earth evil?

-No.

-There are many human desires which God has given us that are good.

3. What is one of the biggest problems with sin?

-For many, it seems to be wonderful at the time, but in the end, it will kill you.

4. Why is it important to live understanding that the end can come at any time?

-Then, we will be careful about how we live.

5. Are some gifts that God gives more important than others?

-No.

-All gifts are important.

-No gift is unimportant in God’s eyes.

6. When do we participate in the sufferings of Christ?

-When we suffer even though we have not sinned.

-It is when we suffer for our belief in Christ that we participate in the sufferings of Christ.

7. Does God want us to suffer?

-No, because when God created the world, there was no sin and no suffering.

8. What has come from Christ’s greatest suffering?

-Eternal life for people from every tongue, tribe, and nation.

-From the greatest suffering comes the greatest triumph.

Let’s read 1 Peter 5:1

1-To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed:

-Peter is not calling himself the pope of the church, but only a fellow elder.

-Elders should never require that others serve them, but rather serve the people of the church.

-We should follow the Lord Jesus’ example when he said that He “did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mk 10:45).

-While Peter was a witness to Christ’s suffering, and while we may suffer or witness the suffering of others, the righteous suffering of a Christian will end in glory.

Let’s read 1 Peter 5:2-3

2-Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;

3-not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

-Christians are like sheep who need to be watched over by shepherds or elders of the church.

-Elders are to shepherd the church, and not be kings of the church.

-This is because the church belongs to the Lord Jesus.

-In Matthew 16:18, the Lord Jesus said this: "I will build MY church."

-The church belongs to the Lord Jesus and not to people who want to be king or want to build their own kingdom.

-We should build the kingdom of Christ, and not the kingdom of man.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:4

4-And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

-Who is the Chief Shepherd?

-The Lord Jesus.

-Christians are shepherds following our Chief Shepherd.

-When Christ returns, we will receive a crown of glory.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:5

5-In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

-"God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble" is from Proverbs 3:34.

-Why is humility necessary in our Christian lives?

-If we are proud and not humble, there is little space for God in our lives.

-This is because we are so full of ourselves.

-When we are humble, however, we are emptying ourselves of us and allowing God to fill us.

-The degree or measure to which we empty ourselves will be the same degree that God will fill us.

-If we empty ourselves a little, then God will fill us a little.

-If we empty ourselves a lot, then God will fill us a lot.

-From 1 Corinthians 3:16 (and other verses), we know that God lives with all Christians: “Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?”

-Since, therefore, God lives with all Christian, what is the difference between Christians?

-The difference in Christians is the degree or the measure that we allow God to be God in our lives.

-If we allow God to be God very much in our lives, He will do so.

-If we allow God to be God in our lives only a little, He will do so.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:6

6-Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

-Instead of being proud and lifting ourselves up, it is much better to remain humble here on earth, and allow God to lift us up before all of eternity in heaven.

-If you are a little man on earth, you will be a big man in heaven, but if you are a big man on earth, then you will be a little man in heaven.

-Jesus said, “The last will be first, and the first will be last” (Matthew 20:16).

Let's read 1 Peter 5:7

7-Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

-When no one else cares for us, and even when we do not care for ourselves, God cares for us.

-This truth will help us to give to our God all of our worries.

-In Luke 12, the Lord Jesus said this:

22-Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear.

23-For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

24-Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!

25-Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?

26-Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?”

Let's read 1 Peter 5:8-9

8-Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

9-Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

-Satan prowls around because he can only be in one place at one time.

-While Satan wants to devour all Christians, he cannot because Christ is in us and we are in Christ.

-We resist Satan and stand firm in the faith when we are full of the Word of God.

-If you remember, the Lord Jesus resisted Satan by speaking the Word of God.

-Satan cannot stand against the Word of God because the Word of God is our God Himself.

-This is one reason why we must read and study the Word of God.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:10-11

10-And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

11-To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

-It is God who chooses us to believe, and after we have

suffered on this earth for a short time which makes us strong in our faith in Christ, He calls us to eternal glory alongside of Christ Himself.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:12

12-With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

-While it was God through Peter who wrote this letter, it was Silas who was with Peter in Rome who wrote it with pen and ink.

-We are to stand fast in the true grace of God.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:13-14

13-She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.

14-Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

-It is believed that Peter was in Rome when this book was written.

-Because Rome was persecuting Christians, it is believed that the world "Babylon" was used for Rome in order to protect Peter and others.