



# GARDEN CITY

C H U R C H

**1ST PETER PART 5**  
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**8.4.2024**

**LIVING OUT GRACE**  
**CH. 4 TAKEAWAYS**

**1 Peter 4:1-2** Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. 2 As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

- **GRACE TO LIVE FOR GOD**
- **GRACE TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER**
- **GRACE TO REJOICE IN SUFFERING**

**GRACE TO LIVE FOR GOD**

1. Die to the flesh
2. Live for the will of God (it's not enough to stop for the world and the desires of the flesh, we must intentionally commit to live FOR the will of God)
3. Consider the day of judgment...we will all give an account for our lives, for the unbeliever eternal death, for the believer the gain or loss of rewards based upon the life we've lived
4. Keep an eternal mindset... Jesus is coming to make all things new, and those who are in Christ will rule and reign with Him in the age to come.

**GRACE TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER**

1. Live sober minded knowing that the end is near
2. Love each other
3. Use your gifts to serve one another
4. Doing this will bring praise and glory to God

**GRACE TO REJOICE IN SUFFERING**

1. Do not be surprised by suffering
2. Rejoice as you participate in Christ's suffering
3. To suffer for Christ is a blessing
4. Praise God for the privilege to suffer for Christ
5. Suffering should produce commitment to God and a continuation of doing good

## **GRACE DEFINED**

Grace (Charis):

- a. that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech
- a. of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues.
- a. the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace

## **READ - PRAY - SING THE SCRIPTURE**

- **READ it to bring your mind/thoughts into agreement with God.**
- **PRAY it to bring your will into agreement with God.**
- **SING it to bring your affections/desires into agreement with God.**

**The Big Idea (The context and environment of the church Peter is writing to): The Gospel is the source for our grace to live well as believers. To live in a way that honors God with our lives, in our homes, relationships and workplace. Grace to endure, persevere, to suffer well in the midst of unjust authority/government leaders, trials, tribulations and persecution.**

***What do you say to people who are expecting persecution and suffering for their faith? What do you tell them to focus on? You point them to Jesus to point them to the gospel that is our salvation and our eternal hope!***

## **GRACE TO LEAD AND SHEPHERD**

**1 Peter Ch. 5:1-4** The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; 4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

- 1. God is looking for those who will lead willingly**
- 2. God is looking for leaders that are not motivated by dishonest financial gain**
- 3. God is looking for leader who do not desire to dominate those they lead**
- 4. God is looking for leaders who commit to being good examples to those they lead**

**1 Cor. 11:1** Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

**Matthew 16:24-26** Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. **26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

**Phil 2:5-8** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **6** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it [a]robbery to be equal with God, **7** but [b]made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

**Romans 8:29** For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

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**Colossians 3:12-13** Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; **13** bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*.

## **GRACE TO HUMBLE OURSELVES**

**1 Peter 5:5-7** Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for

"God resists the proud,  
**But gives grace** to the humble."

**6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **7** casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

1. Submitting to one another is a command. It requires humility.

**Resist** (*antitassō*) to range in battle again, to oppose

**Proverbs 6:16** Here are six things God hates, and one more that he loathes with a passion: **eyes that are arrogant,**

**Proverbs 16:5** Everyone proud in heart is an abomination (disgust, hatred) to the LORD;

Humility is the act of bringing yourself low. Choosing to put yourself under the mighty hand of God. It is a choice, it is a choice that has to be made repeatedly, and it is a choice that will often cause great tension in your interior life that is more prone to pride.

2. Humbling ourselves is rewarded by God's grace
3. Humility frees us to give our anxiety and cares to God

**Matthew 5:3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:5** Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the <sup>land</sup>earth.

## GRACE TO BE STEADFAST IN THE FAITH

**1 Peter 5:8-11** Be **sober**, be **vigilant**; because your **adversary** the devil walks about like a roaring lion, **seeking** whom he may **devour**. **9 Resist** him, **steadfast in the faith**, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. **10** But may the **God of all grace**, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. **11** To Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**Rev. 12:9** So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

**Rev. 12:10-12** Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. **11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.** **12** Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

**Sober:** to be sober, to be calm and collected in spirit

**Vigilant:** give strict attention to, be cautious, active

**Adversary:** enemy

**Seek:** to crave

**Devour:** to swallow up/ to destroy

The enemy is looking to:

- Deceive
- Discourage
- Distract

But we need to repent for thinking that the enemy's power to deceive, discourage and distract is greater than the grace that is available to us in Christ!

When the enemy comes to **deceive** there is GRACE to lean into the Lord's **discernment**. The Holy Spirit promises to guide and lead us into all truth (John 16:13)

When the enemy comes to **discourage** there is GRACE to find our **delight** in the Lord!

When the enemy comes to **distract** there is GRACE to **depend** on God and regain focus!

**Resist:** withstand, to set oneself against, to oppose

**Steadfast in faith:** strong, firm, immovable, solid, hard, rigid

Peter emphasizes that we should not only resist and be steadfast in faith but we should do so as we intentionally acknowledge "that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world."

I know we pray for the persecuted church and we should! I know we pray for the believers suffering around the world for their faith and we should. But according to Peter we should be looking to faith of the persecuted church, the suffering of our brothers and sisters as a source of strength to increase steadfastness!

**Talk about Lebanon ....**

No matter what the enemy throws at us he can't steal our **devotion** to the Lord, he can't steal our **determination** to exalt Jesus and advance His kingdom, he can't rob us of our **decision** to put our faith in Jesus Christ and His gospel!

I have decided to follow Jesus....the world behind me, the cross before!

I have decided to know nothing but Christ and Christ crucified (**1 Corinthians 2:2**)

**1 Corinthians 15:3-6** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that He appeared to Cephas<sup>a</sup> and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once,

Some of you need to make up your mind today that it's the gospel of Jesus Christ for you and nothing else! For some of you you're looking for something else, for something to move on to, for something greater, for a deeper revelation or truth to be your source of security and steadfastness but I am here to tell you today that there is nothing else, it is Jesus crucified, it is the empty tomb, it is the power of the resurrection and it is sufficient for us!

Some of you have convinced yourself that you are lacking faith in this season and I feel like the Lord is saying it's not a lack of faith that's the issue but it's the location of your faith. The location of our faith **MUST** be the GOSPEL!

### **Peter prays a prayer for strength in vs 10-11**

**10** But may the **God of all grace**, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, **after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.** **11** To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**Perfect (*katartizō*)** : put in order, arrange, adjust, to restore, ethically: to strengthen, perfect, complete, make one what he ought to be

**Establish:** to make stable, place firmly, set fast, fix

**Strengthen:** specifically to strengthen the soul

**Settle:** to lay the foundation, to ground

**Ephesians 3:14-19** For this reason I bow my knees to the Father **of** our Lord Jesus Christ, **15** from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, **16** that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, **17** that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— **19** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

### **STANDING IN GRACE**

**1 Peter 5:12-14** By Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the **true grace of God** in which you stand. **13** She who is in Babylon, elect together with *you*, greets you; and *so does* Mark my son. **14** Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Peter finishes by acknowledging that they are standing in the true grace of God. Peter celebrates and honors those laboring for the gospel in communion with him. He exhorts the church to continue greeting and loving one another in the process of living out their faith in the increasingly hostile environment they are in.

Peter is convinced that no matter what suffering or cost may come with their faith, they can prevail because they are standing in the true grace of God! This is true for us today!

**Altar call: grace to stand in the true grace of God**