



A THEN + NOW PEOPLE

THE BOOK OF 1 PETER

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
WEEK 4

CONNECT

- What's the most disoriented you've ever felt? (Maybe some kind of medication, jet lag, got lost, etc.)
- What are some ways you think going through the covid pandemic will change your lifestyle once the pandemic is over?
- What can you recall about the story in the Bible of Noah and the ark?

INTRODUCTION

Read: 1 Peter 3:13-14

After the tough advice in the previous passage to show honor in the face of dishonor, Peter anticipates how these disciples might feel, and he speaks to it. He tells them not to be troubled. Imagine not being troubled, even when you are mocked for being a

Christian. In the passage, Peter says that in order to not be troubled, we need to *locate* ourselves, *posture* ourselves, and *pour* ourselves out.

READ & DISCUSS

READ

1 Peter 3:18–4:7

DISCUSS

We Must Locate Ourselves

Peter compares their cultural moment to the days of Noah and the ark, and the same is true for us. The flood represents God's built-in consequences for sin, and the ark is Christ. This is powerful imagery, and perhaps a little unsettling. But if we don't understand "when" we live, we'll never understand "how" to live. How does Peter's comparison of our day to Noah's day impact you?

READ & DISCUSS

READ

1 Peter 3:14-17

DISCUSS

We Must Posture Ourselves

Disciples who are safe on the ark don't lean over the railing and mock nonbelievers caught in the flood. Rather, we need to be ready and willing to give a clear response to the question, "Why are you a Christian?" And we must do it with gentleness and respect. We can't be indifferent and detached, but we can't be abrasively engaged either. Do you feel ready to give a reason for the hope within you? Why or why not?

READ & DISCUSS

READ

1 Peter 4:8-11, Proverbs 10:12

DISCUSS

We Must Pour Ourselves Out

After addressing their posture towards nonbelievers, Peter turns their attention to each other. Sin opens the door to the chaotic flood, but love makes for tranquil waters. But loving fellow disciples isn't easy; it requires us to pour ourselves out by serving each other without grumbling. What has God gifted you and graced you with, and how are you using these gifts to serve others?

PRAYER

- Identify nonbelievers who you want to see saved and pray for their salvation.
- Pray against fear and a troubled spirit.
- Spend time praising Christ for suffering once for sins!

DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN

- Have you read your Bible and prayed consistently the past week?
- Who is one lost person you're praying would come to faith?



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