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## LESSON 9

### 1 Peter 5

1. As you look back over last week's lesson about suffering, what stands out to you and what do you pray will take root in your life going forward?
2. Pray for God's guidance as you read **1 Peter 5:1-14**, the final words of Peter's first letter to those who shepherd God's flock and to those within the flock. How might the recipients of the letter (who had been enduring suffering most of us have never known) received Peter's practical message?
3. In **VI** how does Peter start out this section of his letter to the church? What do you think he accomplishes by this introduction?
4. a) What specific instructions that encompass both action and motivation does Peter give to the elders of the churches and what is significant about their reward In **V2-4**?

- b) Have you seen or experienced an elder of the church leading by being a good example or watching over the flock as someone eager to serve? What difference did this make to you, your church or your community?
5. **V5-6** addresses the younger people and the entire church. What comes to mind with the image of clothing yourself? Why do you think Peter emphasizes the importance of humility in this section of the letter?
6. What does Peter ask of his readers in **V7**? What anxieties are weighing you down and how can you apply this verse in your own life? See **Philippians 4:6-7**.
7. **1 Peter 5:8-9** gives a charge and warns of a formidable adversary. What do we learn about the tactics of this adversary and how to respond to him?
8. What is the assurance contained within **V10-14** and how does it flow from **V8-9**?
9. How does Peter's strategy for godly living reflect the character and priorities of God?

**10. LIVING AS STRANGERS: STANDING FIRM**

a) Peter calls on his readers to resist the devil and stand firm in the faith (**V9**). He also encourages them to stand fast in the true grace of God (**V12**). As you read more about standing firm in the following verses, reflect on how this concept challenges you when so many conflicting voices attempt to undermine your faith.

- **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

- **Ephesians 6:11-17**

- **James 4:6-10**

b) In what area of your life are you struggling to stand firm, having doubts or second thoughts? Ask your group to pray for you in this area.

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**