



**Week 1**

**Sermon Series:** Sojourners & Exiles: 1 Peter

**Sermon Text:** 1 Peter 1:1-12

**Group Week of:** September 4, 2022

**Sermon Date:** September 11, 2022

| <b>Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies</b> |   |
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| <b>Day 1</b>                                   | Letter to the Exiles – Jeremiah 29:1-13 |
| <b>Day 2</b>                                   | The Chosen – Romans 8:28-30             |
| <b>Day 3</b>                                   | New Birth – John 1:9-14                 |
| <b>Day 4</b>                                   | Joy in Suffering – Romans 5:1-8         |
| <b>Day 5</b>                                   | Complete Joy – John 16:19-24            |

**The Text: 1 Peter 1:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup>who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup>These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Peter are speaking to the church in Asia Minor (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) Where do you see “exilic” and “sojourner” language throughout this passage? Why is that important?

## Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Think back on Abraham, the sojourner, and Daniel, the exile. What in their stories do you find most applicable to the Christian life? Write out your top applications below and why they are important.
- 2) Peter writes to the churches scattered throughout Asia Minor. He calls them “elect exiles.” What does this mean? How does it apply to you today?
- 3) Despite being an exile in the world, Peter opens his letter with praise to God. How are Peter and you able to praise God with “inexpressible joy” (v8) in your exilic life?
- 4) Though exiled, we are also “shielded” (v5). Who/What shields you? How does knowing that God is your shield influence your daily trials and battles in the world?
- 5) Peter acknowledges that there are trials and suffering in this life. Yet, he makes clear that these trials and suffering serve a glorious purpose.
  - i. What is that glorious purpose?
  - ii. What trial are you presently going through? How does the above purpose change the trial?
- 6) One of the hardest things for us to experience and believe is that God can or would truly fill us with inexpressible joy in the midst of trials. Based on this text, how does this joy come to the believer?
- 7) Have you experienced this inexpressible joy? If yes, talk about it with your group. If no, ask God to pour that joy into your heart through our study of 1 Peter. Ask Him to show you the joy of being part of the kingdom of God while living through the trials of earth. Share that desire with your group and ask them to pray for you in this area.