

LIVING AS A SOJOURNER

I PETER

IN A STRANGE LAND

In 1 Peter chapter 5, we have Peter finally telling us where the trials and suffering are coming from. He extends an invitation to his readers to *grow in their awareness* of the devil.

Read 1 Peter 5:6-9 together as a group. Take the time to read verses 8 and 9 from a few different translations.

- *Why are most of us uncomfortable talking about the devil?*
- *Why does it seem like an easy out to blame the devil for anything hard in our lives?*

No matter what you believe about Satan, we see in scriptures that **Jesus lived his life with a deep understanding and awareness of Satan**. He uniquely knew the power and limitations of Satan.

- *Read **Luke 4:1-13** and **John 10:10** together as a group.*
- *How is Peter's view of Satan shaped by the words of Jesus?*
- *What are the dangerous consequences with dismissing an enemy that Jesus was fully aware of?*

Peter wants his readers to **stay alert** for the plans of the enemy, knowing that Satan's work and ultimate plan is hidden from us.

- *How can one "be sober minded and watchful" for the devil?*
- *The visual in verse 8 is the enemy as lion on the prowl. Do any of your past experiences bear this out as a good example of how the devil attacks our lives?*

Peter's call to action is for us to resist the devil. We resist by not denying Jesus, we resist by being hopeful in every circumstance, and we resist by acknowledging the presence of an enemy.

- *Where does the power to resist come from?*
- *Why is resisting such a powerful way to fight the enemy?*

In closing **Peter reminds us that we are not alone**, and resist together as a brotherhood that exists throughout the word.

- *In what ways can our church together resist the enemy in the city of Clarksville?*
- *Pray as a group that our church, both collectively and individually, would be aware of the plans of the enemy and resist with courage in the face of evil.*