

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a rugged mountain landscape. In the foreground, a large, dark grey rock pile sits on a grassy slope. A bright orange tent is pitched on the grass behind the rocks. In the background, more mountain peaks are visible under a sky with dark, heavy clouds and a bright light source, possibly the sun, creating a dramatic sunset or sunrise effect. The text is overlaid on this image.

*Sojourner:*

# Suffer Well Submit Humbly Stand Firm

*1 & 2 PETER*

*"After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace,  
who called you to His eternal glory in Christ,  
will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you."*

*– 1 PETER 5:10*

BARB WILSON

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# Getting the Most Out of This Study

**Format:** This study works well for individuals, small groups, or in a large group setting with a teacher. *A teacher guide is available.* The study is designed to be completed during a typical ministry year, September through early May, but it can be used at any time.

NASB – This version is referenced for all lessons in the study. For example, if a question refers to the third word of a verse, this is the translation that should be used to answer the question.

Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB),

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**Features:** The study includes 24 Bible Study Lessons, an introductory lesson, and additional resources in the appendices.

Look for the following features that will help you dig deeper into the study.



**For Discussion:** *These questions are designed for use in small group discussions. They encourage reflection and personal application of the study.*



## For Further Study

*These questions offer study suggestions to help you gain further understanding about specific topics or portions of scripture.*



## Class Notes

*These sections include blanks that are to be filled in during the teaching portion of the Bible study. All answers can be found in the 1 & 2 Peter Teacher Guide.*



*This symbol introduces a Bible verse, either from Peter or from other portions of Scripture that relate to the teaching in Peter.*



This symbol in the margin introduces a quote from a leading Christian author, speaker, or Bible commentary.

Don't skip these! Each quote offers additional insight into a topic that is covered on that page.



LESSON

1

# The Life of Peter Part One

*I also say to you that you are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build My church;  
and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.*

– MATTHEW 16:18



You are Simon  
the son of John;  
you shall be called  
Cephas.

—  
JESUS

## Lesson 1: *Life of Peter, Part 1*

Are you excited to get started? Are you anticipating learning a lot about the Bible and how God will use that learning in your life? Are you hoping to grow in your knowledge and love of the Lord and His Word, will, and ways? If not... it's time! God has much for us as we faithfully study and obey His truth, written for us. So... Peter. You've probably heard of him. You probably know some things about him. You may have some thoughts and ideas about who he was, what he did, why he did what he did, and why he changed. Let's start with an overview of his life before we dig into his writings. But before we even do that, let's stop and pray.

*Lord, help us as we study Your Word to apply Your truth to our lives that we may be more like You.*

1. Let's start with where Peter grew up. Find out any details regarding this location.

a. John 1:44

b. John 12:21

2. Study the account of the first time Peter meets Jesus then answer the questions.

John 1:35-42

a. What was the name of the man who left John the Baptist to follow Jesus?


b. Who did this man tell first that he had found the Messiah?

c. What does the word "Messiah" mean?

d. What did Jesus already know when He met Andrew's brother?

e. Write down the new name Jesus gave to Simon.

3. Explain the significance of verse 42: "He brought him to Jesus." How can we apply this?

4.  **For Discussion:** Have you ever shared Christ with or presented the gospel to a family member? How did it go? Why is this difficult? What was the result?

5. Andrew, and perhaps Peter also, had been disciples of John the Baptist. After his arrest, they returned to their fishing business. Read these two passages and write down what you learn about their call to follow Jesus: Matthew 4:18-22 and Mark 1:16-20


6. Where is Jesus in Luke 4:31 and what does He do in Luke 4:38-39? What does this tell us about Peter?

7. Read Luke 5:1-11 and list what you learn about Peter, the call from Jesus, and the break from the past.

8. How does Peter's attitude change toward Jesus from verse 5 through verse 8?

9. What can we learn from Peter's example in this account?

10. We know this story. The disciples were in a boat with Jesus and a severe storm arose. Peter was most probably there. List all you learn about how he would have responded and acted. Mark 4:35-41.

11.  **For Discussion:** *Have you ever believed or felt that Jesus did not care that you were going through a difficult time or in a painful situation? What can you learn from this account?*

12. You may not have noticed this interesting and important fact before. Matthew 10:2 lists the twelve disciples. Whose name heads the list and why is this significant? What two words come before his name and are significant? Whose name is last?

### ➤ For Further Study

13. Read through Matthew 10 and list what you learn that would apply to you regarding being a disciple of Jesus.



Do not fear,  
from now on  
you will be  
catching men.

—

JESUS




You are the Christ,  
the Son of the  
living God.

—  
PETER

14. The crowds are surrounding Jesus and pressing in on Him. One special woman touches Him in faith. Jesus asked who touched Him. Notice who answers Him and what he says. Luke 8:40-46

15. We are going to see a pattern revealing the inner circle of Jesus' disciples. Which disciples were allowed in the room with Jesus when He healed Jairus' daughter? Luke 8:49-56. What might Peter have learned from observing what happened?


16. The disciples spent a lot of time with Jesus, saw miracles, sat under His teaching, were instructed, and were sent out to minister on their own without Him. One night Jesus told them to get into a boat and He would meet them on the other side. Read what happens then summarize Peter's role and lesson he learned. Matthew 14:22-33

17.  **For Discussion:** *Share an experience when you stepped out in faith but then got frightened and cried out to Jesus for help. Did He help you? What did you learn from the experience?*

18. Peter is learning and growing. When Jesus asks the disciples who they think He is, Peter is the first to speak up. What does he proclaim and how did he know this? Matthew 16:13-17


19. Yes, learning and growing, but still a way to go. When Jesus told His disciples He would be killed, Peter had some strong reactions to that news. Summarize from Matthew 16:21-23. Maybe he forgot Who he was talking to? Maybe we forget sometimes also????

20. How does Jesus respond to Peter's rebuke?

21.  **For Discussion:** *In what specific ways do we set our minds on our own interests instead of God's? Do you ever tell God what He should do or not do?*

22. Who, again, is in the special group of disciples that Jesus takes up the mountain? Matthew 17:1-8. Once again, Peter is full of plans and ideas of his own. God the Father nips those plans in the bud before Peter can even finish speaking. Write down the last three words of verse 5.



23.  **For Discussion:** The command by God to “Listen to Jesus!” is not just for Peter. In what ways are you making certain that you are doing that?

24. The disciples are confused and struggling with Jesus’ teaching regarding His death and resurrection. What are their responses?

- a. Matthew 17:22-23
- b. Mark 9:30-32
- c. Luke 9:44-45

25. Which disciple do the tax collector’s approach regarding Jesus paying temple tax? Matthew 17:24

26. The Jewish rabbis taught that it was unnecessary to forgive anyone more than three times. What did Peter suggest to Jesus? Matthew 18:21-22 What might Peter have been thinking when he suggested this? How might he have been expecting Jesus to respond? What did Peter learn about forgiveness?

### ➤ For Further Study

27. Finish reading the instruction on forgiveness in Matthew 18:23-35 and list what you learn for your life.

28. Peter usually speaks his mind. What is he concerned about in Matthew 19:27-30? Does Jesus rebuke Peter for his question? Summarize what Jesus promises.

29. Jesus teaches many things that the disciples do not understand nor expect. Who comes to Him for more information? Mark 13:3-4.



*“Jesus said to him,  
“I do not say to  
you, up to seven  
times, but up to  
seventy times  
seven.”*

—

MATTHEW 18:22