

June 16, 2024

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

1 Peter 5:1-7

“Stand Up & Stand Out”

“Service – Part 1”

- I. Foundation: God’s Provision of Salvation (1:1-12)
- II. Exhortation: Our Response to So Great a Salvation (1:13-5:14)
 - A. Sanctification (1:13-2:12)
 - B. Submission (2:11-3:12)
 - C. Suffering (3:13-4:19)
 - D. Service (5:1-11)**
 - 1. S _____ (1-4)

2. S _____ (5-7)

3. S _____ S _____ (8-11)

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. Read **Eph. 2:1-10**. The first 9 verses tell us of God's awesome grace poured out on us in so great a salvation. What is our response in verse 10? What motivates us to do that? How specifically are you applying that verse at The Bridge?
2. After a long section on suffering unjustly because of our commitment to living righteously for Jesus, why does Peter specifically speak to the **elders** of the church? How does he describe himself in relationship to Jesus and in relationship to the elders? How is he modeling what he says in the following verses? Why does he speak both of sufferings and of glory?
3. In 1 Peter 5:1-4 there is only 1 **command** (imperative). What is it? Some people think of elders as administrative figureheads who make business decisions for their church. What is Peter saying is their primary responsibility? Why is that especially important during times of suffering for the faith?
4. Read verses 2-4 carefully. What principles can you find for the elders as pertains to the **manner and motives** of their service? List as many as you can. Why are motives important in our service to Christ and His church? [See Paul's motives in 1 Thess. 2]
5. Peter speaks often of the **rewards** we will gain in heaven. Some people think it is wrong to be motivated by rewards. What do the following verses say about rewards? Rev. 22:10; 2:23; Is. 40:10; 62:11; Heb. 11:6; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:10; Eph. 1:11; Col. 3:23f; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Mt. 5:10-12.
6. In 1 Peter 5:5a, Peter addresses **younger men**. Does this only apply to men? What does he command them to do? What does that mean practically? Why would that be important in times of suffering unjustly for Christ? Look at the following verses and note our responsibility toward elders in the church: 1 Thess. 5:12-13; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; Heb. 13:7, 17. What are some practical ways you can make the elders' job more joyful for them?
7. God clearly wants all of us to be **humble toward one another** (Eph. 4:2; Phil. 2:1-8; Col. 3:12). What does it mean to "clothe" ourselves with humility? Why is God opposed to proud people? What does it mean that He gives grace to those who are humble? How do we practically humble ourselves (allow ourselves to be humbled) under the mighty hand of God?
8. What is **anxiety**? Is there a relationship between pride and anxiety? How can humility help us when we feel anxious? What does it take to cast all our anxieties upon the Lord and not take them back and start worrying again? Why might a person not believe that God cares for them? How do you remind yourself of God's genuine concern for you when you are going through difficult times? What specific verses help? What other spiritual disciplines help? How might elders in the church help?
9. How does all of this apply to **service** in the church? How do **elders** help others serve? How does **submission** to them help us serve? How does **humility** impact our service?
10. **How are you serving at The Bridge?** (See also 1 Peter 4:10-11) Are you doing it wholeheartedly? Sacrificially? Joyfully? In the power of the Holy Spirit? With pure motives? Looking to future rewards? If you don't know where to serve, please look at the church app or website (<https://bridgebible.church/ministries/serve/>) or call the church office (818-776-1500). Your service in the body of Christ is vital to its health and fruitfulness.
11. **Memorize 1 Peter 5:1-7.**