

1 Peter 5:12-14

1. Purpose Statement (v. 12)

Silvanus

Summary

Declaring that this is the true grace of God

Exhorting us to stand firm in it

2. Final Greetings (vv. 13-14)

Greetings from Babylon

Greetings from Mark

Greetings to Each Other

Peace to All

1. Share how you've seen God at work in this previous week (perhaps in answer to prayer requests), or other ways you've seen his goodness.
2. What insight, principle, or observation from the message did you find most helpful, most challenging, or most troubling? Please explain.
3. In Peter's closing remarks, he again reminds us that Christians are exiles who live in spiritual Babylon until Jesus returns and brings us home.
 - a. Do you feel like an exile in Canada yet, or even around your family? How so? If you can think of one, share an "exile moment" that you've had that stands out.
4. Though we feel out of place in the world, Peter wants us to feel like & know that we're with our "family" when we're with God's people. So, he instructs the "kiss of love" (remember, we're only bound to the principle of affection, and not the cultural practice of kissing).
 - a. Does showing physical affection come naturally to you?
 - b. What are some ways that people who aren't physically comfortable/able can show that the church is their closest family?
 - c. How do you think EBC could grow in showing familial affection to all believers (new & old)? What's your role in this?
5. We were exhorted by Peter not to be surprised at suffering. How can we use 1 Peter to *prepare* for suffering, instead of just using it to *react* to suffering? What difference could this make?
6. Consider some of the following themes from 1 Peter & discuss how we could help fellow exiles with these truths. Discuss these truths as a way to exhort & declare to one another (*You may consider all, or only a few of the following*):
 - *Our election unto salvation*
 - *Our identity as God's house, a chosen race, royal priests, & a holy nation*
 - *Our call to Christ like submission & suffering*
 - *Living in the last times*
 - *God's testing/judging of his people*
 - *Our hope of praise, glory, & honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ*
 - *Any other themes you can think of from 1 Peter*
7. Pray together that we would stand firm in the true grace of God.

Next Week: Judges