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*“The ultimate test of our spirituality is  
the measure of our amazement at the grace of God.”*  
[Martyn Lloyd-Jones]

## ENGAGE & CONNECT

What are you grateful for or what has brought you joy in the last week?

## BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*“He leads the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.  
All the Lord’s ways show faithful love and truth to those who keep his covenant and decrees.”*  
[Psalm 25:9-10]

## BIG IDEA

Where do we most want to be? Positioned, standing firm in the true and triumphant grace of God!

## PASSAGE

- 1 Peter 5:1-14

## DISCUSSION

1. How might the phrase “shepherd God’s flock among you” challenge common perceptions of church leadership and using our spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ?
2. In the sermon we heard, *“Belong ... deeply and really belong to a biblically-led body of believers.”* How well do you “belong” in our church family? Is there an invitation from God to belong in a deeper way in this season?
3. In v. 5, Peter advises younger people to submit to their elders. How might this principle of submission be both challenging and beneficial in the context of our church family?
4. How can the call to “clothe yourselves with humility toward one another” transform a church family’s dynamics and relationships?
5. In the sermon we heard, *“Treasure and nurture a mindset of humility.”* How is God challenging your idea of humility as a Christ follower? How do you treasure and nurture a “mindset of humility”?
6. Verse 6 says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you at the proper time.” What does this suggest about the timing and nature of God’s response to our humility?

7. How does Peter's call to "cast all your cares on Him" connect with the preceding call to humility?
8. In v. 8, Peter warns believers to be sober-minded and watchful because their adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion. What practical steps can we take to remain vigilant against spiritual attacks?
9. What implications does Peter's reminder that "the same kind of sufferings are being experienced by your fellow believers throughout the world" have for the global church today?
10. Verse 10 speaks of God restoring, establishing, strengthening, and supporting believers after they have suffered. How can suffering serve a purpose in our spiritual growth according to this?

## STEP OF OBEDIENCE

I Peter ends with an exhortation: "The God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little while. To Him be dominion forever. Amen ... *I have written to you briefly in order to encourage you and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!*

If we TRULY believe that he is "the God of all grace", that should have a real and daily impact on our understanding of our relationship with God and our approach to spiritual growth. Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting, what is a step of obedience that you can take this week to live in God's grace?

## PRAYER FOCUS

### God of All Grace

- Father, we thank you for the countless ways your grace has been shown in our lives. Help us to see the depth of your grace in every circumstance, and let it humble us, knowing that all we have and all we are is because of you.
- Teach us to lean not on our own understanding, but on your perfect will. Help us to grow in humility, recognizing our need for you in every moment, and trusting that Your grace is sufficient for us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## RED LETTER CHALLENGE OVERVIEW

- **Rock Bridge Red Letter Challenge page** —> [rockbridge.cc/red](http://rockbridge.cc/red)
  - This contains an overview video and links to a 40 day Bible reading plan and Time With God, which complement and enhance the Red Letter Challenge series.
- **Personal Devotional Book**
  - These are for PERSONAL study and are NOT required for small group discussions. If a majority of your group is using the devotionals, come prepared to share a highlight.
  - Books are for sale during our services (while supplies last). In addition, you can find these for sale online by searching "Red Letter Challenge devotional".
  - [HERE](#) is a free audio version available. NOTE: this was made by another church, so please disregard the specific language used by them at the beginning :)
- **Participant Assessment** —> [HERE](#)
  - This free tool helps you discover how you are doing in the 5 targets: Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving, and Going. It has 40 questions and takes about 7-8 minutes.

- It is recommended that you take this assessment at the beginning of the series.
- Videos —> [HERE](#)
  - These short videos (6-8 minutes) can be watched before you gather, at the beginning of your gathering, or as a way to follow up the discussion. Your leader will discern what is best for your group. They are NOT the main content of the discussion!
- Red Letter Disciple Podcast —> [HERE](#)
  - This is a podcast by the creators of the Red Letter Challenge. It does NOT go along with the series, but does have podcasts about discipleship that will equip and encourage you. This would be best to listen to on your own.