



Today, we're starting a new summer-long series through the book of 1 Peter we're calling "Strangers in a Strange Land." This letter shows us how to live as faithful followers of Jesus in a world that often feels unfamiliar and at odds with our Christian values. In today's passage, Peter will show us what it means to be saved and how God's Word shapes that reality. There are plenty of religious books in the world today, but there's only one Bible—and Peter wants us to see just how unique and powerful the Bible really is. That said, today's study is titled "Our Book is Like No Other Book."

**Key Passage:** 1 Peter 1:1-12

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Who is Peter writing to in today's passage, and how does he describe them? What similarities do we share with Peter's original audience?

Peter addresses the "elect exiles" scattered throughout regions in Asia Minor. He describes them as chosen by God, set apart by the Spirit, and destined for obedience to Jesus Christ.

2. What does Peter mean by saying that we have a "living hope" through the resurrection of Jesus Christ? How can this affect how we respond to suffering or trials? How could you remind yourself of this "living hope"?

Peter is saying that because Jesus rose from the dead, believers have a hope that is alive and enduring. This hope isn't based on circumstances but on the unchanging reality of Christ's victory over death. A living hope reminds us that our trials are temporary and that we have an eternal inheritance waiting for us. It helps us endure with joy, knowing our present pain has a future purpose.

3. What contrasts do you see between the temporary trials and the eternal inheritance mentioned in verses 3–7? What practices help you fix your focus on the eternal?

Trials are described as "for a little while" and like fire refining gold. At the same time, the inheritance is "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading." This contrast shows that our present suffering is small compared to our eternal reward.

4. What role does faith play in how we respond to trials, according to verses 6–9? How does Peter frame suffering? What is one way your faith has grown stronger through a difficult season?

Faith is both tested by trials and made more genuine through them. Ultimately, it leads to the salvation of our souls, which brings "joy inexpressible." He suggests that suffering refines our faith like gold and results in praise, glory, and honor when Christ is revealed. It's not meaningless—it shapes us for eternal reward.

5. If you were texting someone facing a trial, how would you incorporate Peter's themes of hope and inheritance? Similarly, how might you use today's passage to encourage a group of new believers?

Perhaps you would encourage them to see their pain as temporary and their future as secure because of Jesus. Like Peter, you could remind them they are not forgotten but chosen and protected by God. Regarding new believers, you could highlight that their salvation is part of a much bigger story—one even the prophets and angels longed to understand. Their faith, though tested, is deeply valued and leads to lasting joy.

6. Peter says that we rejoice even though we have not seen Jesus. What does this say about the nature of true faith? When is it hardest for you to trust Jesus without seeing immediate results?

True faith doesn't rely on physical evidence but spiritual trust and relationship. It allows us to love and believe in Christ, even in the absence of sight or certainty. See Hebrews 11:1.