

A SMALL GROUP STUDY

1 & 2 PETER

Tom Holladay



drivetime
DEVOTIONS

1 & 2 PETER: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

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ABOUT DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS SMALL GROUP STUDIES

Welcome to this special Drivetime Devotions, small group study. This 8-week study is designed so that you can enjoy Drivetime Devotions as a podcast throughout the week and then talk about it with your small group. This will allow for more time in your small group for discussion, application, and fellowship.

The purpose of Drivetime Devotions is to help you know God's Word and put it into practice. It's usually better to study small sections of God's Word each day instead of a larger section once a week. Studying the Bible is like eating—you'll be healthier if you eat small amounts each day rather than one big meal a week! Episodes are designed to be listened to once per day, five days a week. In the event you miss a day or two, you can still stay on schedule.

ABOUT DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS SMALL GROUP STUDIES

In Drivetime Devotions, Pastor Tom Holladay teaches God's Word and helps you put it into practice. With over 30 million downloads, Drivetime Devotions has built a reputation for changing lives and helping people grow closer to God. You can access this podcast study on 1 & 2 PETER by downloading the DrivetimeDevotions app for your phone or by going to DrivetimeDevotions.com.

HOW TO USE THIS INTERACTIVE STUDY GUIDE

This study guide is designed to be used as a downloaded file on your tablet or phone. You do not need to print it out unless you want to.

A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN



LISTEN

Prepare yourself before each study by listening to each week's five daily podcast episodes (one per day).



CHECKING IN

Open each meeting with a time for everyone to check in on each other's progress with the podcast. Accountability is a key to success in this study!



KEY VERSE

Each week you will find a key verse (or verses) from the chapter you are studying. You may want to memorize this verse together as a group.



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

These are questions for group discussion. Please don't feel pressured to discuss every single question. The material in this study is meant to be your servant, not your master. Therefore there is no reason to rush through your discussions. Give everyone ample time to share their thoughts.

Some questions will reference the verses from which they are taken. Many groups will want to have someone read those verses accompanying the question. There is something powerful about hearing the Bible read aloud together as a group.



LIVING ON PURPOSE

This section helps you encourage each other in balancing God's five purposes of evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship. Each week, there will be a prayer, practical action, or personal assignment that focuses on one of these purposes.



PRAYING TOGETHER

At the end of each session you will find suggestions for your group prayer time. Praying together is one of the greatest privileges of small group life. Please don't take it for granted.

Get ready for God to do incredible things in your life as you begin the adventure of learning more deeply about the most exciting message in the world: the truth about God!

A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN



TELL A FRIEND

As you go through each session, the Holy Spirit may bring to mind different people in your life. You may even want to write their names down beside a point, phrase, or verse in the margins. Take the opportunity to share God's Word in a friend's life during the week.

WEEK ONE: 1 & 2 PETER 1 Peter 1



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK ONE



CHECKING IN

1. If you're just starting as a group, take some time to get to know each other by going around the circle and sharing your name, where you grew up, and something about your life.
2. What is the most memorable road trip you have ever taken and what made it special?



KEY VERSE

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you read about the incredible living hope described in verse 3, how does keeping this hope in view change your perspective when you face difficult circumstances? *1 Peter 1:3*
2. Considering the contrast between our new birth and the fading things of this world in verses 3-4, in what areas of your life do you find yourself tempted to place your trust in temporary things, and how can we encourage one another to rely on God? *1 Peter 1:3-4*

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3. As verse 13 calls us to prepare our minds for action, what practical steps can you take this week to be holy in how you think, and what struggles do you face in keeping your mind focused on grace? *1 Peter 1:13*
4. When reflecting on the call to be holy in all we do in verses 15-16, how does understanding God's own holiness inspire you to live differently rather than feeling like an impossible standard? *1 Peter 1:15-16*
5. Looking at the profound truth in verses 18-19 that you were redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, how does realizing your deep value to God influence the way you approach Him in worship? *1 Peter 1:18-19*
6. Since verses 22-23 urge us to love one another deeply from the heart, how has God's enduring word shaped your ability to love the difficult people in your life? *1 Peter 1:22-23*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

WORSHIP

Spend 10 minutes this week reflecting on 1 Peter 1:3, and write down three specific ways God has shown you mercy, sharing one of them with a group member via text to encourage them in worship.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for one another to be filled with a living hope this week, asking God to help the group keep their minds prepared for action and their hearts focused on His grace.

WEEK ONE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK TWO: 1 & 2 PETER 1 Peter 2



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK TWO



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week, how did reflecting on God's mercy impact your perspective or your worship throughout the week?
2. If you had to describe your current week using only a movie title, what would it be and why?



KEY VERSE

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you consider the encouragement in verses 1-3 to crave pure spiritual milk, what personal habits have you found most helpful for feeding on God's Word in your daily routine? *1 Peter 2:1-3*
2. Looking at the description of us as living stones in verses 4-5, how does realizing you are an essential part of God's building change the way you view your role in reaching out to others? *1 Peter 2:4-5*

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3. As verse 9 declares that we are a chosen people called out of darkness, who in your life right now needs to hear the story of how God brought you into His wonderful light? *1 Peter 2:9*
4. When reflecting on the urge in verses 11-12 to live good lives among pagans, can you share a time when your actions opened the door for a conversation about your faith? *1 Peter 2:11-12*
5. Considering the command to submit to authorities and show proper respect in verses 13-17, how can living with this kind of unselfish attitude be a powerful witness to those around you who don't know Jesus? *1 Peter 2:13-17*
6. Looking at the example in verses 21-23 of Jesus entrusting Himself to God when facing insults, how can we encourage one another to respond with grace instead of retaliation in our most difficult relationships? *1 Peter 2:21-23*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

EVANGELISM

Identify one person in your life who does not yet know Jesus, and commit to praying for them every day this week, asking for an opportunity to declare God's praises through your actions or words.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the boldness and grace to live as a holy nation, asking God to open doors for the group to share the hope they have with specific people in their lives.

WEEK TWO



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK THREE: 1 & 2 PETER 1 Peter 3



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK THREE



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at our focus on evangelism, did anyone have a chance to pray for or share God's light with the person they identified last week?
2. What is the best piece of advice you have ever received, and how has it shaped your life?



KEY VERSE

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,"

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you consider the call to live in harmony, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate, and be humble in verse 8, which of these qualities do you find most challenging to practice in your daily life? *1 Peter 3:8*
2. Looking at the command in verse 9 to repay evil and insult with blessing, can you share a personal struggle you have faced with this and how you eventually found the strength to pursue peace? *1 Peter 3:9*

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3. Focusing on the strong challenge in verses 10-11 to keep our tongues from deceit, what practical boundaries or habits help you control your words when you feel frustrated? *1 Peter 3:10-11*
4. When considering the reality presented in verse 14 that we might suffer for doing what is right, how does this truth help you stay committed to following Jesus when it costs you something socially or personally? *1 Peter 3:14*
5. Reflecting on the instruction in verse 15 to give an answer for our hope with gentleness and respect, how can we help each other grow in our confidence to share our faith without becoming argumentative? *1 Peter 3:15*
6. Looking at the powerful reminder in verse 18 that Christ suffered once for sins to bring you to God, how does remembering His sacrifice motivate you to keep growing in your faith even when you face setbacks? *1 Peter 3:18*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

DISCIPLESHIP

Choose one relationship where you have struggled to show compassion or humility, and take one specific step this week to bring peace or blessing into that situation.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that God would help the group to revere Christ as Lord in their hearts, asking for the strength to respond to difficult situations with gentleness, respect, and a commitment to peace.

WEEK THREE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK FOUR: 1 & 2 PETER 1 Peter 4



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK FOUR



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week's challenge, did anyone take a specific step to bring peace or blessing into a difficult relationship?
2. What is your favorite way to spend time with friends on a weekend?



KEY VERSE

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When looking at the call in verses 1-2 to be done with sin and live for the will of God, what is one area of your life where you have had to make a hard choice to leave behind an old habit in order to follow Jesus? *1 Peter 4:1-2*
2. Considering the instruction in verse 7 to be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray, how does the way you handle stress or distractions impact your ability to pray with and for others? *1 Peter 4:7*

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3. Reflecting on the beautiful truth in verse 8 that love covers over a multitude of sins, how have you experienced the grace and forgiveness of a fellow believer when you messed up, and how did that impact your faith? *1 Peter 4:8*
4. When you read the command in verse 9 to offer hospitality to one another without grumbling, what practical steps can our group take to create a more welcoming and open environment for each other? *1 Peter 4:9*
5. Looking at the encouragement in verses 10-11 to use whatever gift you have received to serve others, how can we help each other identify our unique spiritual gifts and find ways to use them in our community? *1 Peter 4:10-11*
6. As verses 12-13 remind us not to be surprised by painful trials but to rejoice in participating in Christ's sufferings, how can this group better support and carry one another when someone is walking through a difficult season? *1 Peter 4:12-13*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

FELLOWSHIP

Plan a specific time this week to connect with someone from the group outside of your normal meeting time—whether through a text, a phone call, or getting coffee—to intentionally encourage them.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that God would deepen the fellowship within the group, asking Him to help everyone love each other deeply and use their gifts to serve one another faithfully.

WEEK FOUR



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK FIVE: 1 & 2 PETER 1 Peter 5



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK FIVE



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week's discussion on suffering, was there a moment this past week where you were able to apply God's perspective to a difficult situation?
2. If you had to describe your personal leadership style in one word, what would it be and why?



KEY VERSE

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." — 1 Peter 5:7

(NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Looking at the call in verse 2 to serve willingly rather than out of duty, how does shifting your mindset from "I have to" to "I want to" change the way you interact with those you lead, and how can we encourage one another when we feel stuck in a rut of obligation? *1 Peter 5:2*
2. When considering the challenge to be an example rather than lording it over others in verse 3, where do you find it most difficult to lead by your actions instead of just your words, and what is one step you can take this week to change that? *1 Peter 5:3*

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3. As verse 5 describes clothing yourselves with humility, what does it practically look like to put on the "apron of humility" in your daily relationships, and how can we help each other keep pride in check? *1 Peter 5:5*
4. Reflecting on the invitation to cast all your anxiety on God in verse 7, what is one area of your life right now where you are struggling to trust His timing, and how can this group support you in handing over control? *1 Peter 5:7*
5. When you consider the warning in verse 8 about the enemy prowling around, what are some ways you have personally seen him try to stir up worry or discord recently, and how do you fight back against those attacks? *1 Peter 5:8*
6. Thinking about the promise in verse 10 that God Himself will restore and strengthen you after suffering, how can we encourage each other to hold onto this hope when we feel battered by the battles of life? *1 Peter 5:10*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

WORSHIP

Identify one way you can actively express your trust in God's timing this week, stepping out of the "driver's seat" to worship Him as the one truly in control.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Spend time praying for the areas where group members are feeling anxious or weighed down by leadership responsibilities, asking God to replace those burdens with a spirit of willing service and humility.

WEEK FIVE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK SIX: 1 & 2 PETER 2 Peter 1



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week's focus on leading with the heart of a shepherd, did you find a moment this past week to intentionally serve someone you lead?
2. If you could be an eyewitness to any event in history, what would it be and why?



KEY VERSE

"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." 2 Peter 1:3"

(NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the promise in verses 3-4 that God's divine power gives us everything we need for life and godliness, where in your life right now are you most tempted to rely on your own strength, and how can we help point you back to His promises? *2 Peter 1:3-4*
2. Considering the building blocks of faith listed in verses 5-7, which of these qualities do you feel God is currently asking you to make every effort to develop, and how can we pray for your growth in this area? *2 Peter 1:5-7*

1 & 2 PETER: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. When you look at the warning in verses 8-9 about becoming ineffective and unproductive, what habits or mindsets typically cause you to lose sight of God's forgiveness, and how do you hit the reset button? *2 Peter 1:8-9*
4. Reflecting on Peter's commitment in verses 12-15 to constantly remind his readers of the truth, how can we as a group do a better job of reminding each other of who God is when one of us starts to drift? *2 Peter 1:12-15*
5. As Peter shares his personal eyewitness experience of Christ's majesty in verses 16-18, how can sharing your own personal testimony of what God has done in your life help build the faith of those around you who don't yet know Him? *2 Peter 1:16-18*
6. Thinking about the description of God's Word as a light shining in a dark place in verses 19-21, how can we intentionally use the truth of Scripture to bring light into our everyday conversations with friends or coworkers this week? *2 Peter 1:19-21*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

EVANGELISM

Think of one person in your life who does not yet know Christ and commit to sharing a personal story with them this week about how God has been a "light shining in a dark place" for you.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for boldness to share the truth of God's Word with others, and ask the Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of those you are planning to reach out to this week.

WEEK SIX



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK SEVEN: 1 & 2 PETER 2 Peter 2



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK SEVEN



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week's discussion about God's promises, was there a specific promise you held onto or a moment you felt His truth making a difference in your week?
2. What is the most ridiculous or unbelievable story someone has ever tried to pass off as truth to you?



KEY VERSE

""They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravityâ€"for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him." â€" 2 Peter 2:19"

(NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Looking at Peter's warning in verses 1-3 about false teachers secretly introducing destructive ideas, what are some subtle ways you've noticed the world's ideas creeping into your own mindset, and how can we help each other stay anchored to the truth? *2 Peter 2:1-3*
2. When you consider the truth in verse 9 that God knows how to rescue the godly from trials, can you share a time when you clearly saw God's hand protecting or rescuing you in the midst of a difficult situation? *2 Peter 2:9*

1 & 2 PETER: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. Thinking about the contrast between those who are bold and arrogant and those who are humble in verses 10-12, how do you practically maintain a posture of humility when you find yourself disagreeing with someone else's beliefs? *2 Peter 2:10-12*
4. Reflecting on the story of Balaam loving the "wages of wickedness" referenced in verses 15-16, where in your life do you find it most tempting to try and find a way around God's will, and what step can you take to realign with His plan? *2 Peter 2:15-16*
5. As verse 19 describes the false promise of freedom that actually leads to slavery, what is an area where you have experienced true freedom by obeying God rather than following your own desires? *2 Peter 2:19*
6. Looking at the warnings throughout this chapter about appealing to our lustful or selfish desires, how can we as a group help keep one another accountable and strong when our own desires try to lead us astray? *2 Peter 2:18-22*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

DISCIPLESHIP

Take a hard look at the media, advice, or entertainment you consume on a weekly basis, and intentionally replace one worldly influence with time spent studying God's Word to strengthen your discernment.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for a renewed commitment to God's truth across the group, asking Him to reveal any areas of compromise or hidden greed, and intercede for one another to walk in true freedom rather than the false promises of the world.

WEEK SEVEN



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK EIGHT: 1 & 2 PETER 2 Peter 3



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK EIGHT



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week's focus on standing strong in God's truth, did you face any moments where you felt your faith was tested by the world's ideas?
2. If you knew for certain that Jesus was returning next week, what is the first thing you would do?



KEY VERSE

"The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent." — 2 Peter 3:9

(NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you look at the warning in verses 3-7 about scoffers mocking the truth of Jesus' return, how do you handle the temptation to doubt God's promises when things in the world seem to just continue on as they always have? *2 Peter 3:3-7*
2. Considering the reminder in verses 8-9 that God's perceived slowness is actually His patience for our sake, how does understanding His heart for people to repent change the way you view the difficult waiting seasons in your own life? *2 Peter 3:8-9*

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3. Thinking about the Day of the Lord coming unexpectedly in verse 10, how does the temporary nature of this world challenge you to hold onto your current possessions or plans more loosely, and how can we encourage each other to live with an eternal perspective? *2 Peter 3:10*
4. As verse 11 challenges us to live holy and godly lives in light of eternity, what is one practical way you can bring the reality of heaven into your daily routine this week? *2 Peter 3:11*
5. Looking at the call in verse 14 to make every effort to be found living peaceful lives, where do you currently feel the most tension or unrest, and how can this group help support you in finding peace? *2 Peter 3:14*
6. Reflecting on the final instruction in verse 18 to grow in grace and knowledge, what does it practically look like for you to focus on deepening your relationship with Jesus right now rather than just trying harder to follow the rules? *2 Peter 3:18*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

FELLOWSHIP

Reach out to someone in the group or the church who is in a difficult season of "waiting" and offer them your presence and support, reminding them that they do not have to wait alone.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Praise God together for His immense patience toward us, and ask Him to help the group grow deeply in grace and knowledge as you support each other in living holy, forward-looking lives.

WEEK EIGHT



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.