

Think: What will the next step be for you? Here are some ideas...

- Read a gospel (eg. book of Mark or Luke) to get to know Jesus better
- Talk to a Christian friend about why they love Jesus
- Come to Albert Pung's baptism (*this Sat 18th Oct, 10:30am at St Kilda beach*) and hear how this Chinese student decided to follow Jesus!
- Sign up for the NTE conference (*6-10 December*) – a great opportunity to investigate more about God and humanity over 5 days :)
- Decide to give your life to Jesus, let him be your Shepherd, and trust in him for eternal life
- Other:

Talk outline

Introduction

1. Peter

2. Church Leaders

2a. Reluctance → Willingness

2b. Personal Gain → Eager Service

2c. Dominating → Being an Example

3. Church Members

4. The Crown of Glory



Belonging to God's flock

1 Peter 5:1-14

The letter so far...

We have reached the end of 1 Peter! The apostle Peter wrote this letter to Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor in the mid-60s AD, addressing them as “elect exiles” (1:1) – chosen by God but foreigners in the world. We’ve learnt that the way we respond to Jesus will determine our eternal future. We’ve learnt that Christians have been given a certain hope of heavenly inheritance, because of Jesus’ resurrection. Following Jesus means being part of a loving family, growing through God’s word and making God known to others. God’s people are united with Jesus and follow his example, even in temporary suffering – because this means they will also share in His eternal glory.

Icebreaker

How would you define “humility”?

Read 1 Peter 5:1-14.

Are there any difficult words here?

Living in God’s flock (5:1-7)

How does Peter describe himself (v1)?

v2-3. Peter uses the image of “shepherds” and “flock” to describe the Christian community and its leaders. He gives three sets of contrasting instructions for how **Christian leaders** are to behave:



Not...	but...
Not...	but...
Not...	but...

v4. Who is the Chief Shepherd?

What is your impression of Christian leadership, based on **v1-4**?

How is this different to the world’s concepts of leadership?

What attitude should **church members** have to leaders, to each other, and to God?

According to **v7**, what is the very special relationship that Christians have with God the Father?

Do you have this relationship?

Standing firm (5:8-14)

What do we learn here about

- the devil?
- God?

V10 is a great summary of the message of this whole letter.

Memory verse

“And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.” **1 Peter 5:10**

Take some time to look back over the book of 1 Peter. What have you learnt? What will you do in response? What questions do you still have?

*In this chapter, Peter gives three **future-focused motivations** for his instructions. What are they?*

v4

v6

v10