

1 Peter 5:1 - 14 Bible Study

What do you think of when you hear the word leadership?

What makes a good leader?

Read 1 Peter 5:1-4

1. What attitude should an elder have according to Peter?

A willing desire to care for and serve the people under their care. Not hungry for power. Setting an example of what it means to follow and trust Jesus.

2. Considering the 'crown of glory' seems to be only for the elders, what is it? Read 2 Tim 4:8, James 1:12 and 1 Thess 2:9 to help think through this.

2 Tim 4:8 and James 1:12, talks of a crown of righteousness for everyone who trusts in the lord, ie salvation in Christ for those who trust in him.

A different crown for leaders, acknowledging their role in leading God's people (1 Peter 5:4) and 1 Thess 2:19, indicates that it could be the joy of seeing those under their care remaining faithful until the Lord returns.

Read 1 Peter 5:5-7

3. What is so dangerous about pride as a Christian? How can it be damaging to a church?

Pride is self reliance, trusting in your strength, calling on your own resources. As a Christian we are to rely on God for our salvation and the ongoing strength to remain in him and stand firm. As a Christian we are also to rely on each other to encourage, love, and serve and keep standing firm in faith (Heb 10:23-25)

4. Do you find it hard to give your worries over to God? What helps you cast your anxieties on God?

Talk about what you find hard to trust God with. Maybe a loved one who is not a believer, maybe sickness, maybe worries about the future.

Read 1 Peter 5:8-14.

5. How does being alert and of sober mind help in the Christian life?

It helps stop complacency. In this fallen world, our sinfulness and the devil, everything is pushing us away from trusting and following God. If we acknowledge and recognise the danger, we also recognise our need trust God to help us resist sin, and doubt and stand firm.

6. What is something in particular that you need to watch out for?

7. Do you think of the devil as on the 'prowl looking for someone to devour'? What is the danger if you don't think like that? What is the danger if that is all you think of?

8. What helps you resist the devil? Is that something that you are constantly doing, or only when you think you need it?

9. Think about how you can help your brothers and sisters in Christ stand firm in the Lord.

Spend time praying for one another in response to 1 Peter 5:1-14.