

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

1 Peter 5:1-11

For Starting

- If you could add a *thirteenth* month into the year, where would you put it and what would you name it?
- What things don't you mind admitting that you are afraid of?
- Tell about a time when you had an opportunity to talk about your faith in public or to a non-Christian.
- Who has been the worst boss or leader you have ever had? Who was the best boss/leader? Why?

For Reviewing

- What are Church Elders to do (v.1-3)?
- What are Church Elders *not* to do (v.1-3)?
- How are young men supposed to act toward people who are older than they are (v.5)?
- What advice does v.5 give to every person in God's family? Why?
- What other behavioural advice is given to Christians in v.6-9?
- What will happen to Christians after a time of suffering (v.10)?

For Discussion

- Jesus is described as "The Chief Shepherd" in v.4. What other titles for Jesus have been meaningful to you in your Christian life?
- If Elders were in an earthly family, which member of the family would you compare them to? Why?
- Why is humility a central characteristic of being a Christian today? What does a humble church look like?
- What is the relationship in v. 6-7 between being humble and casting our anxiety on God?
- The Devil is described as a "roaring lion" in v.8. Where else is this description used? See Ps 22:13, 21; Jer 50:17; Amos 3:12; 2 Tim 4:17
- "*When a non-Christian goes through suffering, they lose hope; but, for a Christian, suffering only increase hope.*" Do you agree/disagree? How does this impact our Christian lives today?
- You could end by reading together 1 Peter 5:10-11.

1 Peter 5:1-11 (NIV)

To the Elders and Young Men

¹ To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow-elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

⁵ Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, because,

“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.