

THE SIX WEEK PURSUIT + HERO'S LEGACY +

ADULT SMALL-GROUP STUDY

To the Teacher/Independent Studier,

This study is designed to accompany you as you teach the members of our church. This booklet and the accompanying video are only supplements. Feel free to take ownership of the materials and allow the Spirit to lead you as we talk about the heroes of the Bible together.

Included in this packet are pages intended to be handouts to your group/family with fill-in the blank lines that correspond to the video supplements on our Riverside Lighthouse website, and our Riverside Lighthouse YouTube page.

I realize it is much to ask, and that is why your partnership is both deeply appreciated and treasured. May God bless you immensely as we grow in our walk together!

Sincerely,
Your Pastors

WEEK 3 – “Peter: Peace on the Battlefield”:

Pre-Lesson Study:

To the Teacher:

This lesson will be best accomplished by the Teacher first studying **Luke 22:47-62, Acts 4:5-14, and 1 Peter 3:8-17**. If you would like to add any other verses that would enhance the study or speak to your heart, then please feel free to include them. The video portion of the lesson will cover Luke 22, and Acts 4, but you will be responsible for the additional thoughts of 1 Peter 3. As you study, keep the following in mind:

Themes to Keep in Mind:

- As you study the Scriptures, remember our true hero, founder, and perfecter of our faith is Jesus Himself. All of those we read about, who are considered heroes of the faith, are in truth simply reflections of the greatest one of all.
- Keep an eye out for how we can practically apply our faith and for what we can learn from the story and teachings of Peter.

Questions to Keep in Mind:

- Is being peaceful the same as being passive? Do peaceful people just stand by and do nothing or is peace in itself an action? If so, how does one take action peacefully?

- How can we truly be a blessing to others, even when we are under attack? How can we shift from retaliation to instead a gentle and respectful defense?

Once you have read and studied the 2 Scriptures noted above, you are ready to preview the Adult Group lesson for preparation.

Lesson Opener: Welcome to the 6-Week Pursuit, Week 3, and today’s topic: “Peace on the Battlefield”. We will focus on Peter today and what we can learn from this founding father of the church.

Ice Breaker Question: What is your biggest pet peeve that basically forces you to take immediate action?

- For instance: straightening a picture on the wall that is crooked.

Video – Vern Weaver – “Peace on the Battlefield”: pass out the copies of the handout for this lesson and encourage learners to fill in the blanks in the handout as they watch the video.

Learner Handouts – Teacher’s Guide: the corresponding blanks are highlighted

1. Peter was **slow** to hear, **quick** to speak, and **quick** to anger.
2. Peter’s believed Jesus to be a **warlord for Israel**, instead of the **savior to the world**.
3. We are only eager to fight other people when we are **insecure**.
4. Jesus-Followers only have three enemies: **Satan, sin, and ourselves**.
5. To fight the good fight is to **heal rather than attack**.

Video Follow-Up Questions: encourage every member of your group to pitch in an answer as you walk through these questions together.

Question #1 - Do you believe you have enemies? Why do you think you have enemies?

Question #2 - How should a Jesus-Follower respond to attacks from other people?

Question #3 - Do you believe God fights our battles? What does that mean to you?

Going Deeper: now read **1 Peter 3:8-17** together. Use your previous study of the passage to inform this portion of the conversation.

Final Question: How did Peter shift from an aggressive need to prove himself to a peaceful confidence? What steps could you practically take to increase your faith in God and let the Prince of Peace fight your battles?

Prayer Emphasis: conclude the lesson with a time of prayer. You can structure this time however you feel lead. Listed below are some topics that could help guide this time of prayer.

- Pray for God to give you a humble spirit of peace.
- Pray for God to help you forgive those who have hurt you.
- Pray that God would help you surrender your battles to Him. Invite God to fight your battles as He sees fit.

Continue to the next page for the lesson handouts, questions, and video follow-ups.

LESSON HANDOUTS:

WEEK 3 STUDY “PETER: PEACE ON THE BATTLEFIELD”

Fill in the blanks as you watch the supplemental video to today’s lesson. If you miss any answers, your group’s teacher can provide them.

1. Peter was _____ to hear, _____ to speak, and _____ to anger.
2. Peter’s believed Jesus to be a _____, instead of the _____.
3. We are only eager to fight other people when we are _____.
4. Jesus-Followers only have three enemies: _____.
5. To fight the good fight is to _____.

Video Follow-Up Questions

Question #1 - Do you believe you have enemies? Why do you think you have enemies?

Question #2 - How should a Jesus-Follower respond to attacks from other people?

Question #3 - Do you believe God fights our battles? What does that mean to you?

Final Question: How did Peter shift from an aggressive need to prove himself to a peaceful confidence? What steps could you practically take to increase your faith in God and let the Prince of Peace fight your battles?
