

Life in the Lion's Den: A Study of 1 Peter  
11.20.22

## Facing the Lion

1 Peter 5:5b-14

### Theme

When you are in the lion's den it is important to identify the lion. Otherwise, you end up facing the wrong enemy and guarding yourself against your neighbors rather than helping to rescue them. Crises tend to generate anxiety, handwringing and panic. Peter points to a different way of responding. Resist...don't attack. Stand fast...don't run. And in the face of the lion you will discover that your faith is not misplaced...it is supported by the true grace of God. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

### Dinner Table Questions

*"...I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it."* 1 Peter 5:12

Peter makes clear his two purposes for writing this letter

- "...encouraging you..." How has this letter encouraged you personally?
- "...testifying that this is the true grace of God...". What have you learned or been reminded of by this letter about the truth of God and his grace and the good news?

### Open Bible Questions

Read 1 Peter 5:5b-14 together.

- REDUCE (1 Peter 5:5b-6)
  - o How does taking an intentionally humble posture help someone "stand fast" in their faith?
  - o Where do you see examples of intentional humility in our world today?
- RELEASE (1 Peter 5:7)
  - o What do you think is the cause for the prevalence of so much anxiety in so many of our neighbors and friends (and ourselves)?
  - o How do you go about "casting your anxiety" on Him?"
- Be READY (1 Peter 5:8)
  - o This is the third time Peter has written it in this letter...what does it look like to "be alert and of sober mind" in our day?
  - o Why does it seem like it is so easy to get confused about the identity of the true enemy?
  - o What makes us so ready to attack each other?
- RESIST (1 Peter 5:9)
  - o What does it look like to "resist" in our place and time? How do we "resist" without going on the attack against those who do not share our conviction?
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### Monday Morning Questions

What is currently your biggest challenge as you strive to "stand fast" in your faith?  
How can your church family help?