

The Life & Letters of the Apostle Peter



Class Outline

Lesson:	Class:
1. Life - <i>The Man Know as Peter</i>	7/17
2. Letters - <i>Peter's Description of a Christian</i>	7/20
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4. Letters – <i>The Salvation of your souls</i>	7/27
5. Life – <i>Peter learns to trust Jesus</i>	7/31
6. Letters – <i>Christ and the Church</i>	8/3
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8. Letters – <i>Our Duties in Christ According to Peter</i>	8/10
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11. Life – <i>Peter Learns about True Greatness</i>	8/21
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The Life of Peter

Lesson One: *The Man Known as Peter*

Lesson Aim: Gather as many facts as possible about the man known as Peter.

Lesson Text: John 1:19-44

Background Texts: Matthew 4:18; 8:14,15; 10:2; 16:17; 17:1; 26:37; Mark 1:16-18; 5:22,23, 35-43; Luke 5:1-11; John 21:18-24; 1 Corinthians 9:5; 1 Peter 5:1; 2 Peter 1:13-18

Questions About Peter

1. What does *Peter* mean? Describe the circumstances under which Simon received this name. What is the significance of Jesus giving this appellation to Simon?

2. Tell as much as you can about Peter's family life and background:

Father's name _____

Brother's name _____

Home town _____

Principal place of residence _____

Education _____

Marital status _____

Children _____

Occupation _____

Closest family and friends _____

3. How came Peter to be a disciple of Jesus? What lessons are there for you in Peter's conversion?

4. Locate those places that were significant in the life of the Apostle Peter on the attached map. Site the Scriptures which describe Peter's association with these places

Bethsaida _____

Capernaum _____

Jerusalem _____

Joppa _____

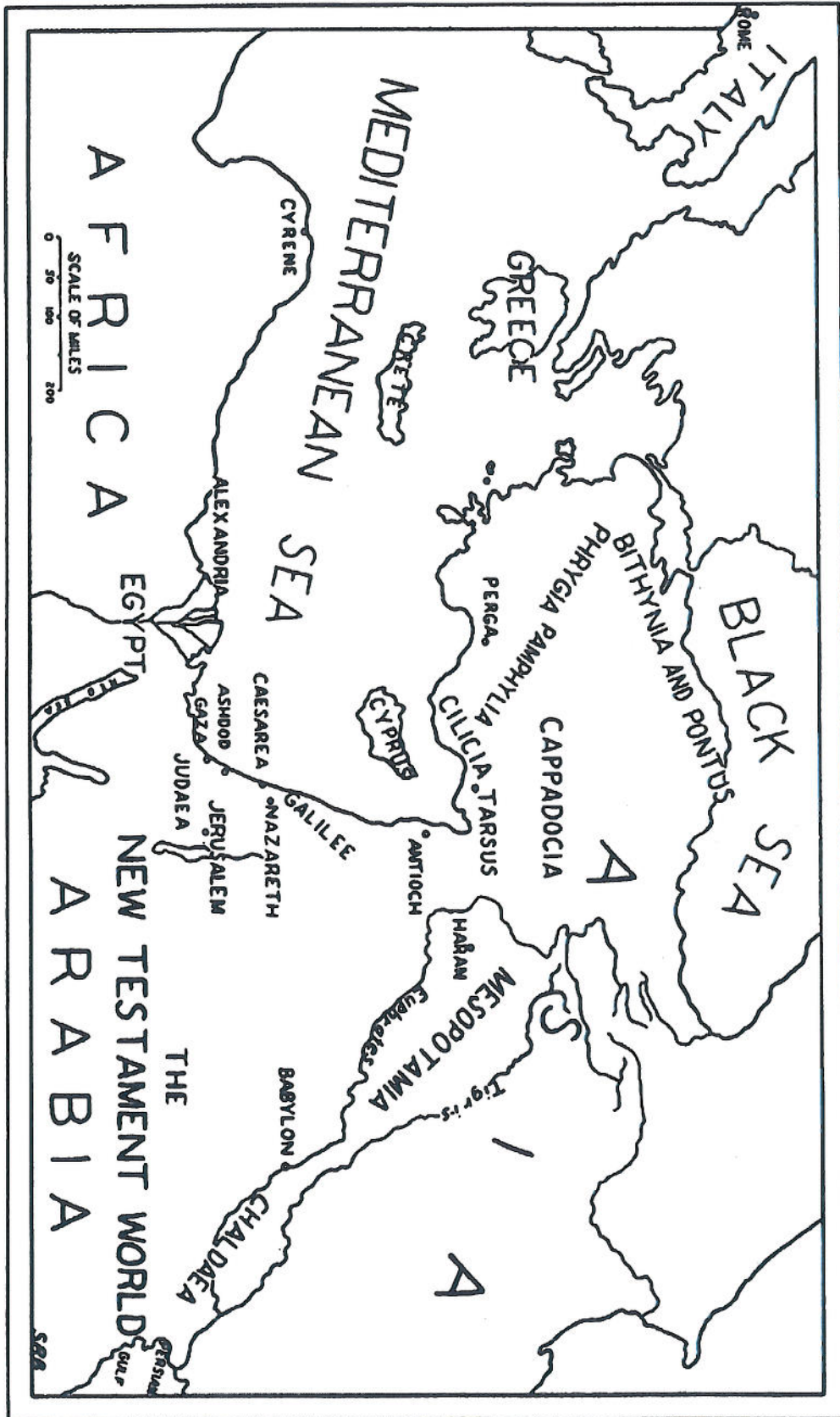
Caesarea _____

Antioch in Syria _____

Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia _____

Babylon _____

5. What were the circumstances of Peter's death?



The Letters of Peter

Lesson Two: *Peter's Description of a Christian*

Lesson Aim: Consider the various terms the Apostle uses to describe the Christian and his relationship to God through Jesus Christ and the Gospel.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 1:1-25

Questions About This Chapter

1. In the following passages how does Peter describe the relationship between Christ and the believer?

1 Peter 1:1 _____

1 Peter 1:7, 21 _____

1 Peter 1:2 (three) _____

1 Peter 1:8 _____

1 Peter 1:9 _____

(Also in 1:14 & 22) _____

1 Peter 1:10, 13 _____

1 Peter 1:3, 23 _____

1 Peter 1:11,12 _____

1 Peter 1:4 _____

1 Peter 1:14,15 _____

1 Peter 1:5 _____

1 Peter 1:17 _____

1 Peter 1:6, 8 (two) _____

1 Peter 1:18-20 _____

1 Peter 1:22 _____

2. Define "election." Where do the Scriptures teach us about when, where, why and how this election was determined?

3. Define "sanctification." By whom and through what means are believers sanctified?

4. Describe the nature of the faith by which the believer is kept?

5. List five incentives by which Peter urges the Galatian Christians unto holiness:

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

(5) _____

Make A Life Application

What did you learn in this study that encouraged you to live a life set apart for Jesus Christ? (Be specific and complete in your answer. Use the back of this sheet in order to write out your response.

The Life of Peter

Lesson Three: *Peter Becomes a Fisher of Men*

Lesson Aim: See Peter answer the call to follow, the call to preach and the call to witness.

Lesson Text: Luke 5:1-11

Background Texts: Matthew 4:18-22; 10:1-7; Mark 1:14-20; 3:13-19; Luke 6:13-16

Questions About Peter

1. Describe the miracle that Jesus wrought that led Peter to make the good confession?
2. As a result of this miracle what does Peter confess concerning Christ?
3. What was Peter's attitude when Jesus asked him to let out the net one more time? Prepare to discuss what there is in Peter's attitude that is essential for every disciple of Christ?
4. Why does Peter describe himself as a "sinful man"?
5. What was the process by which Peter and his companions were brought to the point where they accepted the call to be fishers of men?
6. What does it mean to follow Christ? What was Peter's view of following the Christ? (See: 1 Peter 2:20-25; 3:9,17,18; 4:1-5, 12-19)
7. How does one "catch men"? Compare fishing for fish and "fishing" for men? Is it possible for every disciple to become a fisher of men? What would be the result if we all went "fishing"?

The Letters of Peter

Lesson Four: *The Salvation of Your Souls*

Lesson Aim: Understand Peter's concept of our salvation that was wrought out by Jesus Christ.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 1:2-19

Questions About This Epistle

1. What is Peter's view of our salvation in the following texts?

1 Peter 1:2 (two) _____

1 Peter 1:3 _____

1 Peter 1:4 _____

1 Peter 1:5 _____

1 Peter 1:7 _____

1 Peter 1:9 _____

1 Peter 1:10 _____

1 Peter 1:11 _____

1 Peter 1:13 _____

1 Peter 1:18 _____

1 Peter 1:20 _____

1 Peter 1:22 _____

1 Peter 1:23 _____

1 Peter 2:24 _____

1 Peter 3:18 _____

2. What is the meaning of "*redemption*"? How has Christ redeemed us by His death on the cross?

3. What is the meaning of "*purification*"? In what sense are we purified by the death of Christ? (See: 1:2)

4. What has the resurrection of Jesus to do with our possessing a "*living hope*"?

5. What is the "*inheritance*" which the Christian has reserved in heaven?

Make A Life Application

What may you do on a daily basis that will be found by Christ at His coming to be worthy of praise, honor and glory?

The Life of Peter

Lesson Five: *Peter Learns to Trust Jesus*

Lesson Aim: Learn with Peter that in order to walk on the water you must keep your eyes on Jesus.

Lesson Text: Matthew 14:22-33

Background Texts: Mark 6:46-56; John 6:1-21; 1 Corinthians 10:12

Questions About Peter

1. Do some background research concerning the Sea of Galilee and the storms typical of it.
2. How came Peter and the other Disciples to be on the sea when this storm arose?
3. How does mark describe the Disciple's night on the sea?
4. Where was Jesus while the Disciples were on the sea?
5. What did Peter ask of the Lord when he knew it was Jesus approaching them walking on the water?
6. What does Peter's request reveal about him?
7. What happened when Peter stepped out of the boat? What happened when he saw the wind?
8. Why do you think the Lord bid that Peter come to him?
9. What principle of steadfastness was the Lord seeking to teach Peter?
10. What was it that caused Peter to be unable to "walk on the water"? What lessons can you derive from his experience that would be helpful to every disciple today?

The Letters of Peter

Lesson Six: *Christ and the Church*

Lesson Aim: Acquaint us with the some of the various figures used to describe Jesus and His relationship to the Church, which he purchased with His own blood.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 2:1-11

Questions About This Epistle

1. What Old Testament text does Peter quote as he begins his discussion of Christ and the Church?
2. How does Peter describe Jesus in 1 Peter 2:1-25?
 - (a) 1 Peter 2:4,6-8 _____
 - (b) 1 Peter 2:5 _____
 - (c) 1 Peter 2:7 _____
 - (d) 1 Peter 2:8 _____
 - (e) 1 Peter 2:22-24 _____
 - (f) 1 Peter 2:25 _____
 - (g) 1 Peter 2:25 _____
3. How does Peter describe the Church in that same text?
 - (a) 1 Peter 2:5 _____
 - (b) 1 Peter 2:5 _____
 - (c) 1 Peter 2:9 _____
 - (d) 1 Peter 2:9 _____
 - (e) 1 Peter 2:9 _____
 - (f) 1 Peter 2:9 _____
 - (g) 1 Peter 2:11 _____
 - (h) 1 Peter 2:16 _____
4. Where else in the New Testament is the Church described as a "house" or "temple"?
5. Where else in the New Testament is Jesus described as being like a stone? What function does he serve in that descriptive figure?

Make A Life Application

What is the deterring factor in our relationship to Christ as the *Stone* that the Father has laid in Zion (see: 1 Peter 2:7,8)? Which is He to you, *Precious* or a *Rock of Offence*?

The Life of Peter

Lesson Seven: *Peter Makes the Good Confession*

Lesson Aim: Learn what it means to confess Christ and why this confession is essential to salvation.

Lesson Text: Matthew 16:13-28

Background Texts: Mark 8:27-38; Luke 9:18-27; Matthew 10:32-42; Romans 10: 1-17

Questions About Peter

1. What was the first question that Jesus put to His Disciples? What was the answer?
2. What was the next question? Who was first to answer this question? What was his answer?
3. By what means was he able to make this confession?
4. What did Jesus promise to build on Peter's confession?
5. How do you reconcile Peter's confession, Jesus' approval of it and His subsequent suppression of any further declarations of it? (See: Matthew 16:20)
6. Why do you think that Peter rebuked the Lord as he did? In what sense did Peter "savor" the things that are of men?
7. How does Peter's rebuke compare with Satan's temptation in Matthew 4:1-11?
8. After Peter's rebuke from the Lord, what do you think of his confession? How should that cause us to evaluate our own confession?
9. In Matthew 16:24-28 how does Jesus construe the idea of confessing him in order to be a disciple?
10. Why conclude that Peter is not the foundation of the church?

The Letters of Peter

Lesson Eight: *Our Duties in Christ According to Peter*

Lesson Aim: Learn what special obligations Christians have in their various relationships to men.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 2:11-3:12

Questions About This Epistle

1. What is our duty to civil government? For what purpose?
2. What is the duty of the servant toward his master? What application of this principle can we make to ourselves?
3. What is the duty of a believing wife to her unbelieving husband?
4. How is the husband to treat his wife?
5. How are we to treat our brethren? (Define each of these terms)
 - (a) compassion _____
 - (b) love _____
 - (c) pitiful _____
 - (d) courteous _____
 - (e) evil _____
 - (f) railing _____
 - (g) blessing _____
 - (h) guile _____
 - (i) good _____
 - (j) peace _____

Make A Life Application

What does Peter mean when he exhorts Christians in 3:8 to "be ye all of one mind?" How shall we accomplish this in the local Church?

The Life of Peter

Lesson Nine: *Peter Learns About Jesus' Authority*

Lesson Aim: Learn with Peter that Jesus, and Jesus only, is our authority in religion.

Lesson Text: Matthew 17:1-13

Background Texts: Luke 9:28-36; Mark 9:2-10; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Questions About Peter

1. Whom did Jesus take up on a high mountain apart from the multitudes? Why?
2. Describe Jesus' appearance on this occasion. Describe the appearance of the others that appeared with Him there.
3. What event did Moses and Elijah discuss with Jesus?
4. What were Peter and the others doing while Jesus was praying?
5. What does Peter propose be done when he sees what has happened? When was this?
6. How does Luke describe Peter's suggestion? What does he mean by that expression? Is this an experience you have had? How can we avoid that kind of mistake?
7. What happened when Peter made this proposal?
8. What did the voice from heaven say? What does this saying mean concerning Jesus? What application does Peter make of these words in 2 Peter 1:16-21?
9. What important lesson of practical importance do we learn from Peter's mistake on the Mount of Transfiguration?
10. What did Peter learn from his experience upon the Mount of Transfiguration?

The Letters of Peter

Lesson Ten: *Peter Comforts the Suffering Saint*

Lesson Aim: Learn the place and purpose of suffering in the life of the Christian.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 3:13-4:6

Questions About This Epistle

1. What sustains the child of God in his trials and sufferings? (1 Peter 1:3-7) How is this accomplished?
2. What example does Jesus set for us in suffering? (1 Peter 2:20-25)
3. What place does baptism have in helping the believer overcome his sufferings? (1 Peter 3:12-4:6)
4. What limitations does Peter put upon the sufferings that the Christian may experience that cause us to rejoice? (1 Peter 4:12-19)
5. What is God able to do with those of us that endure sufferings as a Christian? (1 Peter 5:8-10)

Make A Life Application

Name three things that should give each of us confidence in enduring suffering. How does each of these give us the assurance we need to overcome and succeed?

The Life of Peter

Lesson Eleven: *Peter Learns About True Greatness*

Lesson Aim: Learn from Peter what constitutes true greatness in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lesson Text: John 13:1-38

Background Texts: Luke 22:21-27; 9:44-50; Mark 9:30-40; Matthew 18:1-4; 23:1-12

Questions About Peter

1. What had the Apostles argued among themselves at some point during the Last Supper? (Luke 22:24)
2. Who did Jesus say would be the greatest? How did he exemplify this truth? (Luke 22:26,27)
3. When Jesus came to Peter in order to wash his feet, what did he say? (John 13:6-8)
4. How does Jesus answer Peter's rebuke? (John 13:8)
5. For what does Peter then ask the Lord to do? What does this say to you about Peter? (John 13:9)
6. What did Jesus tell Peter in response to his new request? What did Jesus mean by this? (John 13:8-10)
7. What was the example that Jesus gave to His Disciples that they should follow? (John 13:12-17)
8. After Jesus washed the Disciples' feet what did He reveal to them? (John 13:18-33)
9. What question did Peter asked Jesus after this? (John 13:36-37)
10. What does Jesus reveal to Peter at this point? (John 13:38)

The Letters of Peter

Lesson Twelve: *Our Faith and the Faith*

Lesson Aim: Observe Peter's recognition of a distinction between subjective belief and objective truth while learning the significance and importance of that distinction.

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 1:22-25

Questions About This Epistle

1. List the passages in 1 & 2 Peter where Peter identifies our subjective, that is, personal belief as the grounds of our salvation. (How does Peter describe our belief in each of these texts?)

1 Peter 1:5 _____	1 Peter 2:7 _____
1 Peter 1:7,9 _____	1 Peter 3:5 _____
1 Peter 1:8 _____	1 Peter 5:12 _____
1 Peter 1:21 _____	2 Peter 1:2 _____
1 Peter 2:6 _____	2 Peter 1:5 _____

2. By what means did these Gentiles to whom Peter wrote obtain this faith? (How does Peter describe the source of our faith in each of these texts?)

1 Peter 1:12,25 _____	2 Peter 1:1 _____
1 Peter 1:22 _____	2 Peter 1:3 _____
1 Peter 1:23 _____	2 Peter 1:12 _____
1 Peter 1:25 _____	2 Peter 1:19-21 _____
1 Peter 2:2 and 3:1 _____	2 Peter 2:2 _____
1 Peter 4:6 _____	2 Peter 2:15 _____
1 Peter 4:11 _____	2 Peter 2:21 _____
1 Peter 4:17 _____	2 Peter 3:2 _____
1 Peter 5:9 _____	2 Peter 3:16 _____

3. On the reverse of this page list the passages in Peter's two epistles that describe the character or nature of our personal faith in relation to the system of faith.

Make A Life Application

What is the reward for having faith described as "being much more precious than gold that perisheth."

The Life of Peter

Lesson Thirteen: *Satan Seeks to Sift Simon*

Lesson Aim: Watch Peter react to the Lord's warning against Satan's temptations to forsake Jesus. See Peter fail to take heed and prepare against a fall.

Lesson Text: Luke 22:31-38

Background Text: Matthew 26:30-35; Mark 14:26-31; 1 Peter 1:3-9; 2 Peter 3:9-15

Questions About Peter

1. What does Jesus mean when he says Satan wants to "sift" Peter like wheat?
2. What had Jesus done on Peter's part to help him in the approaching trial? What comfort is there in this for the believer today?
3. List on the back of this sheet as many things as you can think of that contribute to a failing faith.
4. What would happen if Peter's faith failed?
5. What did Peter write in his first epistle about the relationship between our faith and our security? How is this accomplished?
6. Jesus told Peter to strengthen his brethren when he was converted. Why say that to someone who was a child of God?
7. To what was Jesus specifically referring when He said Satan wanted to sift Simon as wheat? (see: Mark 14:26-31; Matthew 26:30-35)
8. What did the Lord say Peter would do?
9. How did Peter react to this charge? What does this say about Peter's faith and trust in Jesus?
10. Did Peter's faith fail?