

Message Summary

Peter reminds young Christians to be watchful, courageous, and strong. He tells them to stand firm and let everything be done in love. In all of this, we are to submit to the way of Christ by loving others and fleeing from pride, worry, complacency, isolation, and harmful distractions.

Key Scripture

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:6-11 ESV

Additional Scriptures

- 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 ESV
- Philippians 4:6 NKJV
- Philippians 4:7 NIV
- John 10:10 ESV
- 1 Corinthians 6:18 NKJV
- 1 John 4:10 ESV
- 2 Peter 1:3 EHV

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share your favorite memory with your dad or father figure.

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What life experiences have most positively formed your understanding of what it means to be a godly man or woman?
- Read **1 Peter 5:6-11**. What do you think Peter wants most for the young people he is writing to and why?

Start Sharing

Choose a question to create openness.

- In which of these areas do you experience the most need for God's grace and restoration: pride, worry, compacency, isolation, or lust? How can you practically work against these temptations?
- In your own words, who does Jesus say you are? What has He uniquely called and equipped you to do? How will you respond?

Start Praying

God, thank You for sending us Christ as the ultimate example of how to live and love. Thank You for Your grace to call, restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish us in You. Guide us this week as we grow in humility, trust, courage, community, and integrity. We trust You to form us into the kind of people You created us to be. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start Doing

- Identify one way you can partner with God this week. You might start with yourself, your family, your workplace, or your community.
- Start the Bible Plan *Stand Firm and Act Like Men* using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/standfirmplan
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.