

MARCUS JOHNSON

The First Epistle of Peter
Workbook



The Wilderness Project
Experience

HOPE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY MAN
LIVING IN TWO KINGDOMS

Marcus Johnson

*The First Epistle
of Peter*

Hope For the 21st Century Man Living in Two Kingdoms

[WORKBOOK]



The Wilderness
Project Experience

Visit Marcus's website: www.thewildernessprojectexperience.com

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A free downloadable (PDF) [Answer Key] to this Workbook can be found at the website below in addition to additional information and background about “The First Epistle of Peter: Hope for the 21st Century Man Living in Two Kingdoms.”

thewildernessprojectexperience.com/

Note: This workbook asks for scripture to be quoted in translations that you may not have. You can access all translations for free at <https://www.biblegateway.com/> or using any bible app of your preference.

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Lesson 1: The Apostle Peter

Lesson 1

The Apostle Peter

1. Do you believe that a pre-requisite to properly understanding scripture is to understand the man who, via the Holy Spirit, is credited with writing it? If yes, why? If no, why not? (Pages 5-6)

2. Within the Gospels, _____ is always listed first among the twelve disciples. (page 6)
3. The preponderance of books found within the New Testament are credited to _____. (page 6)
4. _____ is the only man, other than Jesus, to have walked on water (a few steps anyway). (page 6)
5. Complete these verses from Acts Chapter 2 as found within the NASB: (if you don't have an NASB bible, you can use www.biblegateway.com for free)
- a. Acts 2:14-15: "But _____, taking his stand with the *other* eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: " _____ of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, know this, and pay attention to my _____. For these people are not _____, as you assume, since it is *only* the third hour of the day..."
- b. Acts 2:22-24: "Men of Israel, listen to these words: _____ the Nazarene, a _____ attested to you by God with _____ and _____ and _____ which God performed _____ Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— this _____, delivered over by the predetermined plan and _____ of _____, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless _____ and put *Him* to death. But _____ raised Him *from the dead*, putting an _____ to the agony of _____, since it was _____ for Him to be held in its power."
- c. Acts 2:33: "Therefore, since _____ has been _____ at the right hand of _____, and has received the promise of the _____ _____ from the Father, He has _____ out this which you both _____ and _____."
- d. Acts 2:38-39: " _____ said to them, " _____, and each of you be _____ in the name of _____ _____ for the _____ of your _____; and you will _____ the _____ of the _____ _____. For the _____ is for _____ and your _____ and for _____ who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will _____ to Himself."

Lesson 1: The Apostle Peter

6. In Acts 2:17-21, Peter is quoting from an Old Testament prophet. Who is this prophet? _____
(review Acts 2:16)
7. When Jesus was being beaten, Peter _____ Jesus _____ times, and this eventually broke him. But it was Peter's _____ that ultimately allowed God to restore him to a position of glory and honor, raising him to be the pillar of the church that he was destined to be. (page 6)
8. Prior to serving as a Disciple, Peter was a _____ by profession. His brother _____ also answered the call from Jesus to "Follow Me!". (page 9)
9. Jesus referred to Peter as " _____ " on whom He would build His church (Matthew 16:17-18). (page 8)
10. Peter was married. TRUE / FALSE. (circle one). (page 6)
11. The gospels draw a picture of Peter being _____ and _____, never afraid to _____. But, as we find in the Book of Acts, it was Peter's _____ and his _____ to make quick and effective _____ that marked him as someone who was _____ and who everyone could turn to; Peter was _____.
(page 6)
12. While _____ (Jesus' brother) became the defacto head of the Church from Jerusalem, Paul would depend on _____, as one of the three heads, to influence _____ and _____ regarding decisions when it came to how _____ would be integrated in regard to doctrine within the _____. (page 7)
13. Peter was one of three disciples to personally witness a side of Jesus that none of the other disciples saw: What are the three moments that Marcus shares in the text, along with the scripture reference? (page 7)
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
14. In Acts Chapter 4, we read that Peter was uneducated, which may seem to make it unlikely that Peter wrote either of the two letters with his name (First Peter and Second Peter). This claim is used by some scholars to discredit the authorship of both books. Quote Acts 4:13 below from the bible translation of your choice.
(page 8)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Lesson 1: The Apostle Peter

15. In 1 Peter 5:12, we learn that that Peter most likely dictated his letter to a secretary, who penned the letter. Complete the verse, 1 Peter 5:12, below using the King James Version. *(if you don't have a KJV bible, you can use www.biblegateway.com for free)* (page 8)

“By _____, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.”

16. In the text, Marcus argues that approximately 25 years had passed since the description of Peter was alluded to in Acts Chapter 4. He continues that this amount of time would have been plenty of time for Peter to learn how to read and write, something that Peter would have desired in support of his ministry efforts. Nonetheless, Marcus offers that there is no evidence of this implied, or specified, within Scripture. What are your thoughts about this argument, as proposed by Marcus? (page 8)

17. It has been suggested by some theologians and scholars that Peter was the key contributor to Mark when the Gospel of Mark was written. There are two verses, found in scripture that suggest a relationship between Peter and Mark. What are these two verses? (page 9)

18. Do you believe that Peter assisted Mark with the Gospel? Why or why not? (pages 8-9)

19. In John 21:18, Jesus told Peter, “...when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will put your belt on you, and bring you where you do not want to go.” John continues in John 21:19, “Now He said this, indicating by what kind of death he would glorify God...” Eusebius, a 4th Century Historian, quotes from Origen, who made a reference to the death of Peter. What was Origen’s quote? (pages 9-10)

“ _____ ”

20. Church tradition holds that Peter was crucified in what year? _____ (page 10)



Lesson 2: The Book of First Peter

Lesson 2

The Book of First Peter

In Chapter 2 of the text, Marcus shares the idea that, to properly apply scriptural truth found within a Book of the Bible, there are two basic degrees of understanding that the reader must have: 1) it is important to believe in the authorship of the letter, and 2) the reader should have some degree of foundational understanding of the purpose and theme of the letter itself – this allows the reader to place scripture in its proper context. If placed in proper context, then the reader will be more successful in applying the Spirit breathed verses into their life. The verses come alive.

1. It has been argued by some biblical scholars and theologians that it is not possible that Peter wrote the letter attributed to his name. Do you believe that the Apostle Peter wrote the First Book of Peter? If yes, do you believe it is important to believe that he wrote it? If not, why not, and does this impact your belief in the scripture found within? (*pages 11-12*)

2. Marcus shares basic and foundational background for Peter’s letter as well as why he feels that understanding the theme and purpose of the letter is important. In your own words, what do you believe the theme and purpose of the letter to be? (*Chapter 2*)

3. Marcus argues that if we can place doubt on who authored the letter, it can create a _____ challenge in regard to the message of the letter itself. Do you agree with Marcus’ argument? _____ (*page 11*)

4. The Book, as authored by Peter, would have been written during the reign of _____, most likely between ____ - ____ AD. Although, some believe that the Book was written during the reigns of _____ or _____. (*page 12*)

Lesson 2: The Book of First Peter

5. Acts Chapter 4 indicates that Peter was not an educated man, making it plausible that he did not personally write this letter. Marcus points out that at least ____ years had lapsed since the description of Peter depicted in Acts Chapter 4 and the time that he is believed to have written the letter. While acknowledging to having no basis to support his argument, Marcus argues that it is very possible that Peter would have learned to _____, _____, and comprehend _____ over that ____-year period and that Peter would have been highly motivated to learn to improve his own abilities to support his _____ and the _____ at large. Do you agree with Marcus view? _____. (page 12)

6. In 1 Peter 5:12, Silvanus is identified as a faithful brother who, based on the verse, likely penned the letter as it was dictated to him by Peter. This verse offers another opportunity to validate Peter’s authorship. Quote 1 Peter 5:12 below using a bible translation of your choice: (page 12)

7. First Peter was written, and intended, to _____ and _____ suffering _____ who were living in what is today, _____, and they were apparently facing forms of intense persecution. (page 14)

8. Neither of us truly knows what tomorrow will bring in the world, but one thing Christ followers can be assured is that we have an _____ awaiting us, one way or another. (page 14)

9. What are you preparing for, what are you preparing with, and are you preparing in a way that glorifies God in remembrance of the grace that He has bestowed upon each of us? (pages 14-15)

10. Peter tells us to expect _____, that it will happen whether we want it to or not. Peter is real and raw in this letter; he is admonishing his readers to prepare “_____” of persecution. (page 14)

Lesson 2: The Book of First Peter

11. As a Christ follower, when you draw a picture of suffering and persecution in your mind, as it relates to you today, what do you see? *(page 15)*

12. Sometimes, we mistake _____ in our lives with suffering, or we feel _____ when we suddenly feel _____ even when actions have not been taken against us personally (yet). This is acting in _____ verses actual _____. *(page 15)*
13. We are called to _____ and a life of _____ and we are called to glorify God in our daily lives and to imitate Christ – no matter what. *(page 16)*
14. Peter writes that the end of _____ is at hand (4:7) and reminds his readers that they are not to _____ as _____ (4:15), but that they should take persecution as _____ (4:16), whose suffering is really part of the larger purpose of God. *(page 16)*
15. The recipients of First Peter were most likely _____, but we find that he is also addressing church _____ in the last Chapter of the Epistle. Church leaders in the last chapter are converted _____. The reference to their former _____ (1:14), and the futile ways inherited from their _____ (1:18), suggests a _____ history that would not fit with _____ readers. *(page 16)*
16. The First Book of Peter may not be a _____ letter (although it is an awesome example of a Doctrine of _____), but the true value and treasure of the letter is found in the teachings and the emphasis on maintaining _____ in who we are as Christ followers. *(page 17)*



***Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to
a Living Hope***

Lesson 3

What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

1. God is the author of our _____ and has caused us to be born again to a _____ who is Jesus Christ. Because of this, our faith in the Lord should be more _____ to us than _____, with the outcome being nothing short of our trust in Him. *(page 17)*
2. 1 Peter 1:1 (NASB) "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as _____, scattered throughout _____, Galatia, Cappadocia, _____, and Bithynia, who are _____ according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the _____ work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you." *(page 18)*
3. In the context of this scripture, Peter was referring to the believers as " _____ ", not as pilgrims, refugee's, or the equivalent of modern-day expats; but he was also speaking to them in recognition as God's " _____ " exiles, meaning His _____ people. *(page 19)*
4. Peter was providing _____ for those living in a world that was not their own, recognizing that _____ is the true home of all believers. He was speaking to people who were living in two Kingdoms. *(page 19)*
5. Peter describes his readers as God's _____ people because of God's _____ (meaning that He knew ahead of time), that He set His covenantal _____ upon them in advance, which is the fundamental basis of _____. *(page 20)*
6. According to Romans 9:11, a believer's election (being chosen) is not based on anything within the person, but, according to God's _____, because of Him who calls (invites). Quote Romans 9:11 below using your preferred translation. *(page 20)*

Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

7. Marcus argues that choices made by lost people are often the result of what and how they were taught, educated, and trained by misaligned, misinformed, and ignorant people (those that deny or do not know God). Therefore, it may be more precise to say that we are _____ by people around us that we “_____” to influence us – you _____ to believe them. Only the _____ can save us from this programming. Do you agree with Marcus premise? If not, why do you believe that people choose not to trust God? (page 21)

8. _____ implies that the life, and decisions, of a person are predestined by God from the day they are conceived [or born]; that you are born for a destiny that is completely beyond your control. Marcus discusses an article he wrote on this topic about Judas Iscariot. Do you believe that people are predestined for a life that is beyond their control? If so, why do you believe in this idea? (pages 21-22)

9. Believers are _____, set apart from _____, so that they are able to _____ Jesus Christ. You cannot obey Christ when operating in sin, which is why we are _____ and set apart “_____”. (page 22)

10. The process of sanctification, according to Peter, is “_____”. Sanctification of the Spirit is your _____ to Christianity and the gradual progress you make over the duration of your entire Christian life. (1st Thessalonians 4:1, 3) (pages 22)

11. We weren't saved just to get into _____, we were saved so that God can _____ in and through us - implying that we are now duty bound to obey Christ and help save others just like we were saved [using whatever gifts God has given us]. (page 23)

Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

12. " _____ " from 1:2 is a reference to an activity that Moses did when he sprinkled sacrificial " _____ " blood on the people of Israel which served as a symbol of sealing their covenant as a promise to obey God's word. (pages 23)

- 13.
- a. _____ refers to Christ's atoning work on the cross where all of the believer's sins were washed away (ALL). (page 24)
 - b. _____ is the action of making a correction of the past, your past, no matter how bad it was, has been made good. (page 24)

14. _____ is an act that God does for us that we can't do for ourselves. (pages 24)

15. The guarantee that results from our being born again, is that we have now acquired a part of the eternal _____ that is reserved for us in heaven. (page 25)

16. _____ is what God doesn't do to us even though we deserve it (he doesn't condemn us), while _____ is what God does for us even though we don't deserve it (He saves us). _____ is the remedy for the sins we have committed, while _____ is the protection we have for sins that we haven't yet committed. (page 25)

17. Quote Hebrews 4:16 from the NASB below:

18. Without Jesus _____, there wouldn't be anything for us to base our _____ on, or our _____, in an eternal life after our physical death. This _____ we have...is living in the form of _____. (page 25)

19. Our hope in the Living Hope of Jesus Christ allows us to live our lives in confident optimism and expectation because it: (pages 25-26)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

- f. _____
- g. _____
- h. Is confirmed through trials.
- i. _____
- j. _____

20. Our heavenly inheritance is _____, _____, joy, _____, perfection, God's _____, Christ's glorious companionship, rewards, and everything else God has planned. This allows us to manage our expectations because of our _____, and hope, for the future. (page 26)
21. Anything and everything we gain or inherit on this earth will always, at some point, _____; however, our eternal inheritance is _____, meaning it's _____ and unstained with _____. (page 27)
22. Verse 1:4 ends with " _____ " and verse 1:5 continues with the thought, "[YOU], *who are protected by the power of God through faith for a _____ ready to be revealed in the last time*". Not only is the _____ from verse 4 secure, but so are all of us as believers – we are secure. (page 27)
23. In the first five verses of 1 Peter 1, we see salvation used in three tenses: 1) The Past, with the act of your _____, 2) The Present, with your ongoing process of _____, and 3) The Future, which will be your _____. (page 27)
24. It is God's supreme power, His _____ and His _____, that is _____ over our future inheritance, but He is also keeping the believer secure, in their faith, today. No one can steal your _____ and no one can disqualify you from receiving it (but you can disqualify yourself). (page 28)
25. In 1:6, Peter says that believers should "*greatly rejoice*" at the prospect of being part of the _____, God's mercy and _____, our _____, and our inheritance. Our rejoicing is expected to more than compensate for those moments when we are being " _____ _____ ". (page 28)

Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

26. In 1 Peter 1:6, Peter teaches several important principles about trials or trouble: (page 28)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

27. Peter goes on to show, in verse 1:7, how it is the hope of salvation that ought to give a believer _____ during trials [*and temptations*], a message that he continues through to verse 1:9. God doesn't need _____ of faith from us, but people regularly feel that it is necessary to _____ their faith to God [and themselves], so Peter's reference to "proof of faith" is more for our _____. (page 29)

28. In 1 Peter 1:7, Peter compares a believer's faith to _____. (page 29)

29. When smelting gold, the smelter removes the impurities that float to the surface and discards it, allowing the gold to become purer. When it comes to the idea of faith, the impurities include your "fears, uncertainties, and your doubts". The lessons in our own personal "smelting" process are: (pages 29-30)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. We "rejoice" when tested by fire.

30. The degree of confidence you have in your faith gives you a hope that non-believers believe isn't _____, to them it is fake and not _____. It's odd, but also not surprising, how confidence due to faith in the Lord actually makes some unbelievers angry. In verse 1:8, Peter is reminding us that even though we can't physically see _____, we still _____ Him anyway; we still _____ in Him and we are filled with joy about Him in the process. (page 30)

31. _____, _____, and _____ operate together. Without _____, your faith and your hope may not be pure. If we have no _____, then we need to check our _____ by examining where our faith is placed and rooted. (page 31)

Lesson 3: What it means to be Born Again to a Living Hope

32. Peter describes this present relationship with Christ as one that causes the believer to "*greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and glorious joy*". We often confuse the idea of _____ with the idea of _____. Our joy is not dependent on our _____, nor is our joy dependent on being _____. (pages 31-32)
33. Peter indicates that the idea of a future _____ was somewhat of a mystery to the Old Testament prophets who themselves prophesied about it (Isaiah and Zechariah for example). They could only _____ on what God was revealing to them as they reviewed and pondered certain statements given to them by the _____ because they were told of a "grace that would come". (page 32)
34. In 1:12, Peter concludes his "oh by the way" idea by sharing that even though the prophets didn't receive the specific answers they wanted, it was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but people in the _____. The prophets understood that their _____ were concerning the _____ and what they were proclaiming would _____ occur during their lifetimes. (page 33)
35. In the first twelve opening verses of his letter, Peter is stating that God's _____ of human beings is a very targeted lesson concerning the _____ of God, a _____ that is not available to the angels who disobeyed and fell from heaven, nor to those that deny Him or mock the Gospel. (page 33)

Notes



Lesson 4: What it means to be Called to be Holy

Lesson 4

What it means to be Called to be Holy

1. Peter's letter proclaims that followers of Christ should _____ in _____ because it is their suffering that validates their faith, ensuring that their faith is pure and honest. *(page 33)*
2. Peter is personalizing the Christians intimate relationship with God through _____, that we are _____ with Christ and as children of God we must always prepare our minds for action while keeping our spirits _____ against worldly behaviors and beliefs. *(page 39)*
3. Due to our personal relationship with Jesus, we are considered _____ and should behave as such in fear of God as opposed to fear of _____, knowing that God will, someday, judge us all for what we've done. *(page 40)*
4. We keep our _____ on the inheritance of _____ that will be ours when we are finally glorified at the second coming of Christ. *(page 40)*
5. Since we have been given a new life by the _____ of God, we are to love one another _____. We should long for God's word in such a way that we will continue to grow in our _____ for the remainder of our Christian lives on earth. *(page 40)*
6. In 1:13, Peter gives us a clear call to prepare for action. In the original Greek, we are advised to "gird up your loins". "To gird up" means _____. The expression "to have the loins girded" means to _____ for anything. *(page 41)*
7. Peter is advising his readers to _____ their minds for the spiritual _____ that will come while in the middle of high stress and persecution. *(pages 41-42)*
8. To be successful in our spiritual lives we must deal with the matter between our _____. When we don't spend time with _____ and meditating on His _____, then we are deliberately allowing the wrong type of thinking to occupy our _____ which can leak into our hearts, which then impacts our spirit. *(page 42)*
9. In addition to preparing our minds, we need to "_____ - _____" - other translations state "keep sober *in spirit*". "_____ " means to be watchful and circumspect. Peter was referring to our mental faculties and not a reference to alcohol. This includes the ideas of _____, self-control, clarity of mind and _____ decisiveness. The sober Christian is someone in control of _____, in charge of his priorities, and not emotionally excited by the various temptations of the world. *(page 43)*

Lesson 4: What it means to be Called to be Holy

10. In 1:14, Peter is telling us that as followers of God and His ways, we are to leave our old _____ and ways of _____ behind and we are to adopt God's standards of _____. (page 43)
11. By writing about the readers that “didn’t _____ any better then,” in verse 14 (some translations write about those with a “previous _____ of God”), Peter’s reference suggests that the recipients of this letter were mostly _____ who, before coming to Christ, didn’t know any better because they did not know about God. As _____ knew about God, they were not ignorant of God, so it is less likely that his message was for converted Jews. (page 44)
12. As believers, we are to fight against the temptations and desires to _____. Christ requires that believers live their lives in _____ by using what Rick Renner refers to as "spiritual common sense" that keeps us from walking off of a dangerous cliff "spiritually". We are to be _____ and behave just like the Holy One who called us. (pages 44)
13. If we are living in _____ and in a state of _____, we are displaying the character of God who can then use us to attract others whom He is working to pull in towards Him. (page 44)
14. Peter pulls from Leviticus 11:44 and 19:2, making the act of being holy a relative one as it is impossible for humans to be perfectly holy, a mistake that some Christians make causing unnecessary frustration. Quote Leviticus 11:33 and 19:2 below using your preferred translation. (page 44)

Lev 11:33: _____

Lev 19:2: _____

15. Verse 1:17 reminds us that God does not play _____; He is not grading us on a scale, but you should deliberately want to live a life _____ Him while you are alive on the earth. This verse is another way of saying, “if you are a Christian, then you are a believer who knows God and that God will judge your work fairly.” (page 45)
16. In verse 1:18, the NLT says, “God paid a _____” to save us, other translations state that we have been “_____”. Either way, Peter is referring to the act of the believer receiving the ransom paid that set them free from their previous life of living in bondage to sin and the curse of the law. (page 45)

Lesson 4: What it means to be Called to be Holy

17. One of our motivations to live a life in holiness is the priceless _____ that we enjoy as believers; as such, we belong to _____ because as Peter points out in 1:19, He purchased us with His blood. *(page 45)*
18. The fact that we have been delivered from a life of _____ and _____ is of super significance. It was Christ that broke the power of generational _____, those that are passed from father to son over generations. Yet, some still tend to treat their salvation cheaply when they forget what it cost Jesus. *(pages 46)*
19. Most theologians and scholars agree that in order for Christ to be the second person of the _____, it's not possible that the first time the Lord knew of Him was when He was born into existence, but that Jesus already existed before He was born and the Lord already knew Him. *(pages 46-47)*
20. It is because of Jesus and His works that we have our belief in _____, which might seem odd when we consider that even non-Christians believe in God as Peter implies in 1:21. However, there is a difference between _____ that God exists and a _____ in God. Simply believing that God exists does not recognize the _____ that He provided for us, nor does this imply love of Him or require obedience. *(pages 47)*
21. We are to love the _____, no matter what. God saved us with His mercy when we didn't deserve it, it is therefore unseemly and _____ for a believing brother not to love another brother. Brothers are to love other brothers fervently, which also means diligently and _____ - with all our heart. *(pages 47-48)*
22. Loving like God ordains us to love is operating in _____ as previously discussed in verses 1:15-17. It also implies that we live with valid concerns about our relationships with other brothers. Some men don't know what to do about concerns they have with _____ with some of their brothers. The answer is found throughout the New Testament, love is an _____, love is not just a _____. *(page 48)*
23. There is a direct correlation to the capacity of men to _____ all of their Christian brothers with how much time they personally spend with God and meditating on His Word. The less time you spend with God, the _____ degree of certainty that you will find yourself despising or degrading another Christian brother in your heart. *(page 48)*
24. In verses 1:24-25, Peter is quoting from _____ 40:6-8 which declares that our human life is a transition into something more, but only a _____ life that sprouts from the Word of God will be forever under His embrace. *(page 49)*

Lesson 4: What it means to be Called to be Holy

25. It is notable and interesting that the list of sins Peter lists out in 2:1 are those that tend to cause the greatest disruption of fellowship within the Church and, as a result, prevent the Church from completing its part in a believer's growth. Define each of these sins below. (page 49)

- a. Malice: _____
- b. Guile: _____
- c. Hypocrisy: _____
- d. Slander: _____

26. Peter is telling us in verse 2:2 that we ought to behave like _____, who desire milk over solid food, so that we can grow and mature in respect to our new life in Christ after we are born again. We are all _____ in our faith after our initial _____ and we grow towards solid food (areas that are more complex from a spiritual perspective) as our spiritual maturity can handle it. Our spiritual _____ increases as our hunger for God's Word becomes intense and _____. Milk is a reference to spiritual items that are more foundational to our faith; but as we mature in the faith, we need something that is more filling, nourishing, and strengthening. (page 50)

27. Spiritual _____ is a normal sign of a genuine conversion. If a brother isn't getting to this level, and continues to lack this type of hunger, this is a possible sign of spiritual _____ or spiritual _____. This is the brother who will also find that he is struggling to love all of his Christian brothers as alluded to earlier. (page 50)

28. A brother's _____ for the truth of both Christ and God's Word develops and increases as he matures. Simultaneously, the brother should find that he has virtually eliminated _____ from his life, that his ability grows in openly _____ his desire and need for God's truth, that his pursuit of spiritual growth increases, and that he has learned to automatically see and appreciate the blessings in his life. (page 50)

29. Quote Psalm 34:8 below from the New Living Translation (NLT):

30. Peter informs his readers that you can successfully remove _____ from your life and that you will experience an insatiable hunger if you, the believer, are being _____ with yourself and others that you have truly experienced the graciousness of God. If you can't recognize His _____ or admit that it was His grace that you have experienced, you may experience an impact to your spiritual growth. (page 50)

Lesson 4: What it means to be Called to be Holy

31. **IF** you truly experienced God, then that **IS** all that is necessary for you to move towards _____
- to move beyond milk and to solid food. However, if, after a period of time, we find that we still need the _____
of others, then we are not maturing in Christ as we should. (*page 51*)



Lesson 5: The Living Stone and a Chosen People

Lesson 5

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

1. Jesus is described as a _____ who is precious in God’s sight – the _____ stone, the _____ stone, and the stone that will be _____ over. (page 53)
2. “_____” means that we intend to remain in His presence, not just some of the time or whenever we want. (page 54)
3. Peter recognizes that just as Jesus was _____, so are believers who “come to Him” because of their _____; meaning that you will likely be mocked, scorned, or simply rejected and ignored. (page 54)
4. It is Jesus, the Living Stone, that serves as the _____ of our faith and our spirituality. Without Him, the entire spiritual _____ collapses. (page 55)
5. Christ's _____ was prophesied in the Old Testament, but His rejection led to something new and beautiful - His _____. (page 55)
6. As the Living Stone, Jesus is _____, He is not dead, and we, as living stones as Peter says in 2:5, are being built up as a spiritual _____ that is also part of a holy priesthood, where we are to offer up what is referred to as “spiritual sacrifices” that are acceptable to God. (page 55)
7. Unlike traditional churches, Jesus’ Church doesn’t have a formal _____, His Church **IS** a _____ - the entire Church, meaning you and me. We are the _____ that make up His Church. (page 55)
8. As members of the holy priesthood, we have direct _____ to God. (page 55)
9. In 2:6, Peter was quoting from Isaiah 28:16 which refers to a _____ who is the cornerstone that we can believe in and will never be disappointed. (page 56)
10. In 1 Peter 2:7, Peter was pulling from Psalm 118:22. Quote Psalm 118:33 from the NKJV below: (page 56)

11. In 2:8, Peter is quoting from Isaiah 8:14 which refers to Jesus and how He will cause the Jews to _____ over the truth, that those who reject the stone will _____ over it because they are offended by it. (page 56)

Lesson 5: The Living Stone and Chosen People

12. It wasn't the _____ appearance, nor was it Jesus that offended the people; it was the _____. He was preaching that they rejected. It was, and still is, an unwelcome _____ because it challenges unbelievers to confront how they are living, while simultaneously telling them how they ought to _____, and how they ought not to _____. (page 57)
13. 1 Peter 2:8 is one of several verses used as evidence to support the _____ of _____, a theology that teaches that a person can reject the Gospel to a point that God will eventually give up and _____ them, and then He curses them to _____. This is contrary to who God is as God will never _____ a person, no matter what they do; but, if they reject God, then they will pay the ultimate price for that rejection. (page 57)
14. There are plenty of scriptures that refer to _____ and _____, but while God may know ahead of time where a person will end up, He affords the opportunity to everyone to make their own _____. God has predestined not who will _____ but only what the result of disobedience will be for those who _____. (pages 57-58)
15. While _____ are the people of God and have received His mercy, they may actually suffer for that very reason, but the suffering is worth it. (page 59)
16. For the people that he was writing to, Peter was reminding them that it was the moment they heard the message of _____, due to God's mercy, that they had become God's people. (page 59)
17. While we are on earth, we need to choose how to view our life: 1) as _____, 2) as _____, or 3) as _____. Christ Himself sets the example by showing how He led a perfect life right in the middle of all of the chaos and _____ while He walked the earth – as a _____. If He did it, then we too can do it as well. (page 60)
18. The Christian life is both a _____ and a _____. Most believers live for Jesus and they want to please Him; however, the vast majority live and work in environments where they feel the temptations of sin relentlessly. (page 60)
19. Some men find pleasure in cynicism, _____, and sarcasm - which is not Christ like. Other men find pleasure in _____, drugs, or sexual immorality. It's hard and the temptation is strong, which is why Peter states in 2:11 that it's like "_____." (page 60)
20. War, in scripture, draws a picture of soldiers in combat and for some men the lure of temptation is so strong that it is a literal _____ in their mind and in their soul. If we ever give in and let our _____ have what it wants, the battle against doing it again, or similar temptations, becomes _____ and it gets stronger and stronger. This is why Peter was beseeching us never to _____ but to always, and completely, abstain. (page 61)

Lesson 5: The Living Stone and. Chosen People

21. In verse 2:12, Peter is admonishing believers to live _____ and _____, no matter what others are saying to you or about you, or what they may be doing to you or around you. It is by your example that those operating maliciously around you will see how you react and how you continue to glorify God, no matter what. *(page 61)*
22. It is the type of _____ we are experiencing in 2021 where many men _____, declaring "screw it", and cave to what their _____ wants to do. If you live a respectful, _____, and friendly way towards non-believers, this _____ to them and may be the basis in which they turn their lives around. *(page 62)*
23. Peter was teaching that when the _____ of God visits the heart of an _____, the unbeliever may someday respond with saving _____ and openly glorify God because he remembers the testimony of believers he had observed. *(page 62)*



***Lesson 6: Submission to Authority and
a Call to Good Works***

Lesson 6

Submission to Authority and a Call to Good Works

1. When believers submit to _____ authority, they are operating according to the _____ of God which serves as a witness that can silence ignorant and foolish men. *(page 63)*
2. Believers are not to use their freedom of _____ to cover up any sinful acts they may commit; just because you are _____ does not give you a right to sin. _____ is not a “get out of jail free card”. *(page 63)*
3. In Acts 4, the _____ authorities restricted Christians from preaching the Gospel. This is when, according to both Peter and Paul, believers must _____ God over men, when God's laws and man's laws are in conflict. *(page 64)*
4. This idea of _____ is placing yourself into an attitude of submission in a _____ way, even while in the midst of a godless and slanderous society. Even though believers are citizens of _____, it is God's will that we remain obedient to those people placed into positions of authority in the world. *(page 65)*
5. When we behave in a jaded and _____ way, when we lash out at others, and then, somewhere in our communication pattern we declare our _____ for God and church as well as our biblical values, people will view God in exactly that way. *(page 65)*
6. Submission to _____ includes submitting to the government. *(page 65)*
7. Our modern world is turning government into an enforcer of _____ welfare and, when this happens, we lose more and more of our _____. As we lose more of our liberty, we slowly transition into a system of _____, which consistently morphs into _____ if it is not confronted. *(page 66)*
8. In Romans 13:3-5, Paul declared that civil authorities are supposed to be ministers of God for _____ and an _____ who brings wrath to those who do evil. The biblical ideal is to _____ government to areas of _____ and _____, along with the areas that are ancillary to them (such as collecting taxes). *(pages 65-66)*
9. When people both accept and expect government to be the dominant _____ and the agency who tells us what to do about _____ and everything, men _____ as a result, and when this happens, God's people become _____. They “want” government to provide and to tell them what to do about anything and everything, while _____ God's provision. This is not the same thing as submission, this is weakness and slothful. *(pages 66-67)*

Lesson 6: Submission to Authority and a Call to Good Works

10. When we place our _____ on man and not on God, we are being _____ to God and are then living in sin. When we _____, or even demand, men to govern areas of our lives contrary to God's expectations for living and _____, we are being disobedient to what God offers. *(pages 66-67)*
11. When man is mandating _____ and it is not in accordance with God's standards of living, then as believers we are fully _____ to live God's way over man's way. This is the only time we should not _____, humbly and without pride and ego, and we are to never _____ God. *(page 67)*
12. Everything we do should be _____ and _____ in Scripture – the way God wrote it, not the way you prefer to interpret it. We are to live as _____ the way God designed us to live - as men. This is where we can see the _____ that He has for us. *(page 67)*
13. It has been prophesied within Scripture that _____ will trend towards governance by the Anti-Christ. There are members of the “ _____ ” _____ who are, and will be complicit, knowingly or unknowingly, in bringing unbiblical government into service. *(page 67)*
14. Peter reminds us in 2:15 that when we do _____ [by God], which means living according to His Word, this silences the _____ of fools. *(page 67)*
15. By doing good and remaining aligned with God's will for us, this does not mean that we will avoid some level of _____; however, what believers can do is avoid _____ while winning commendation. *(page 68)*
16. As pointed out by Peter in 2:16, as we silence the _____ of foolish men, we do this as _____ men, but we should not misuse our _____ (our salvation via God's grace) as a cover up for _____. Covering for evil implies that you are misleading people into thinking that your activities are _____, when they are for selfish reasons. *(page 68)*
17. Your freedom in Christ does not give you a license to sin or self-indulge, but it is based on your devotion to do what is good in the eyes of God. Quote Galatians 5:13-14 below using the ESV. *(page 68)*

18. In 2:17, Peter expands on the idea of _____ with the premise that we are to honor and respect all men. *(page 68)*

Lesson 6: Submission to Authority and a Call to Good Works

19. We live in a culture today filled with _____, bitterness, offense, and other _____ emotions. These negative emotions will mask the _____ emotions of love, respect, honor, etcetera. Negative _____ get more attention and more publicity, and this has unfortunately taught those that need or want attention to behave in a negative manner. (*pages 68-69*)

20. The quality of our _____ should be higher for our Christian brothers than for unbelievers, but we honor God and exhort Him as King by loving even _____. (*page 69*)

21. Love is an _____, not an _____. Anyone can say they love people, but many may not show that love in their actions. (*page 69*)



Lesson 7: the Kind of Life Jesus Lived as our Example

Lesson 7

The Kind of Life Jesus Lived as our Example

1. By our very act of _____, we will find favor with God. (page 71)
2. When He was walking the earth, Jesus was _____ and He was _____, but He never responded in kind to what those who messed with Him did. (page 71)
3. Jesus is now the _____ and _____ of our souls and it was by His death, and His wounds, that we are healed. (page 71)
4. 1 Peter 2:18 immediately makes a reference to “_____”, but some interpret this word as _____ (the NIV and NLT for example). In the original Greek, Peter used the word *oiketes*, which is translated _____; therefore, _____ is the appropriate word choice. (page 72)
5. A servant is someone who has a boss that they work for and answers to. Many bible scholars believe, as does Marcus, that Peter was making a specific reference to a _____ servant – a butler or a maid for example. Peter follows in this verse by calling on “servants” to be subject to their “_____”. (page 72)
6. The word “_____”, in 2:18, is translated from the original Greek word *despotes*, which refers to a person who is of supreme authority. In this verse, Peter is referring to those who are in positions of _____ in the sense of _____ and supervision. (page 72)
7. Believers who patiently endure _____ are in effect, proof (or evidence) of God's _____ at work. Verse 2:20 continues that God’s people will find a reward from Him if they endure suffering righteously. (pages 73)
8. The MSG paraphrase for verse 20 states that “there is no particular virtue in accepting _____ that you well deserve.” Peter is telling us that there is no glory in accepting a _____ that you deserve because you actually did something that earned that _____. (pages 73-74)
9. There are "masters" out there who _____ you to retaliate after being punished and they look forward to it so that they can punish you more for it. However, not _____ is something that might catch their attention and make them curious. As we will see later in verse 3:15, you may even cause this person to ask you to share why you still have hope when they think you should feel hopeless. (page 74)

Lesson 7: The Kind of Life Jesus Lived as our Example

10. Beginning in verse 2:21 and carried through to verse 2:25, Peter is explaining to his readers that it is more than appropriate for us to follow the _____ of Jesus Christ, who Himself _____ unjustly for the world. (page 74)
11. If we follow Jesus' example, it's not why we _____ or that we suffer, it's _____ we suffer, how we behave, how we _____, and how we _____. We don't suffer for the atonement of sin (only Jesus did that), but we may endure suffering as an example to those who do not believe. (page 74)
12. Jesus suffered without _____ - ever. (page 74)
13. Jesus never told a _____. He never made a single _____, even when He was being blasted, reviled, and cursed. He never _____ back nor did He ever get trapped in a war of _____ with others. When He did answer questions, He always answered with God's _____. It is by His example that Peter is strongly advising that we follow. (page 74)
14. Jesus could do what He did because of His _____ trust in the Lord, even allowing and accepting the Lord's ultimate _____ to be applied as appropriate in the end. If we follow His example and apply this same belief system, then it makes it easier to _____ others - for anything. (page 75)
15. Peter inserts the idea of _____ in 2:24 as further justification for why we need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. It is because of Jesus' actions that we have this chance at righteousness, and it is because of His wounds that we are _____. (page 75)
16. In 2:24, Peter was pulling from Isaiah 53. Quote from Isaiah 53:4-5 using a bible translation of your choice. (page 75)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
17. The word stripes [or _____] used in 1 Peter 2:24 is *molops*, which describes a full body bruising, a mark on the body by the stripe of the _____. The word *molops* signifies that blood has been drawn and there is significant discoloration and swelling. (page 75)

Lesson 7: The Kind of Life Jesus Lived as our Example

18. The Greek word for *healed* used in 1 Peter 2:24 is *iaomai* which refers to _____ in a sense of a cure, _____ bodily health, or to make whole. (page 76)

19. There is disagreement in biblical circles on whether Peter was referring to physical healing or spiritual healing, which is why it is important to study the original Greek or Hebrew for proper context and understanding. Marcus shares his views on this in the text, but what do you believe? Do you believe that this Scripture is a reference to physical healing, spiritual healing, or both? (pages 75-76)

20. In verses 2:23-24, Peter is setting us up for the essence of the Gospel message, the example of how _____ lived His life on earth and why and how He _____ and _____, the goal of His death was that we would die to sin and live a life in righteousness. By sticking with the idea of living the _____ of Jesus Christ, we live rightly with the knowledge that He suffered and died for our _____; therefore, if we live by his example, then our own _____ and living our life in a godly manner might influence others to consider their faith in Jesus, just as His death influenced those of us that accepted His call. (page 76)

21. We _____ as lost _____ because we were allowing the _____, and our situations, to get the best of us, some of us outright _____ against God – we denied Him, made fun of Him and those that followed Him, some of us outright _____. But His promise, His mercy, and His grace allowed us to repent, in faith, and then turn around and return back to Him and receive salvation. (page 77)



***Lesson 8: Submitting to the Covenant of Marriage
and the Church***

Lesson 8

Submitting to the Covenant of Marriage and the Church

1. Wives _____ to their husbands with the understanding that [husbands] who are _____ to the Word of the Lord will observe the decent and respectful behavior of their wives. *(page 79)*
2. Wives shouldn't just strive to be beautiful on the _____, but also in their _____, which is more precious in the sight of God. *(page 79)*
3. Peter strongly admonishes _____ to live in harmony with their _____, that they must _____ and _____ their wives as co-heirs of the salvation and grace of Jesus Christ. *(page 80)*
4. Peter insists that if Christians are to be a _____ for the Lord, then they must also be _____ to the social order of things. This includes our marriages. *(page 81)*
5. The word “_____”, or “devoted”, used in verse 3:1 is the same as the one used in 2:18 in reference to servants being submissive to their masters. This is simply used as a term of recognition for the _____ who, biblically speaking, is the headship of the household. *(page 81)*
6. _____ are in a role that places them in a position of submission to a _____ who is the headship of the family unit, just as all believers (including men) in a church operate under the headship of _____. *(page 81)*
7. Even though Peter is calling on _____ to submit, the idea of submission for the _____ is one of love, _____, and respect for her _____; nevertheless, the wife's devotion is always first and foremost on her relationship with _____. *(page 82)*
8. It is the gracious and loving submission to her _____ that is the strongest form of _____ a _____ has in her arsenal. *(page 82)*
9. In respect to _____ and the _____, the status of the _____ has been raised with new freedoms as compared to that of the Old Testament Jewish lifestyle, and this tended to make unbelieving _____ irritable and hostile as cultural rules dictated that the _____ was expected to follow the belief system of the _____. *(page 83)*
10. Peter isn't imposing some draconian, strict “_____” on women; instead, he is making reference to the _____ who will advise when to speak and, when we do, to speak with a gentle spirit versus a voice that is antagonistic and degrading. *(page 83)*

Lesson 8: Submitting to the Covenant of Marriage and the Church

11. In verses 3:3-4 Peter is emphasizing that while desired and appropriate, _____ should not just be displayed on the outside, but also from the inside. *(page 84)*
12. In verses 3:5-6, Peter appeals to his readers by using the example set by respected women of the Old Testament as a model of _____, inner beauty, and _____ to emulate in order to strengthen their determination in how they “dress and make themselves up” - from a godly perspective. *(page 84)*
13. In 3:6, Peter uses _____ as an example by stating that women will become a child of Sarah if they do what is right; very similar to the notion that all believers are _____’s children when, and if, they emulate the faith of Abraham. *(pages 84-85)*
14. In 3:7, Peter is rounding out his discussion about submission with the topic of _____, who are also subject to submission; not to _____, but to _____. While wives are to submit, husbands are also to do what is _____, and in this case, it is to live with his wife “in an understanding way”. *(page 85)*
15. Peter acknowledges that the woman is weaker from a _____ aspect, but he also implies that the woman is equal to the husband _____ and _____. *(page 85)*
16. Husbands are to _____ their wives as equal _____ of the grace of life, and in doing so their prayers will be _____. If the husband is not respectful to his wife's needs, his prayers will be _____. *(pages 85-86)*
17. The marriage covenant between a husband and wife depicts the covenant between Christ and the Church. Quote Ephesians 5:22-23 below using a bible translation of your choice: *(page 86)*

18. Husbands must be above _____, they must be _____, they must be in self-_____, they must be _____, they must be _____, and they must be a skillful _____. *(page 86)*
19. A husband that is _____, manipulative, _____, disrespectful, or _____ to his wife, in public or in private, is a husband that is being _____ to God and living a life of sin. *(page 86)*

Notes



Lesson 9: Suffer for Righteousness and Do Good, Not Evil

Lesson 9

Suffer for Righteousness and Do Good, Not Evil

1. After giving us a word about how we should be living our lives in submission under authority and in our marriages, Peter continues by giving us examples of _____ that will allow us to live our lives that bring _____ to God. (*page 87*)
2. Human _____ are at the core of 1 Peter 3:8-12. Quote the words of Jesus from Matthew 5:43-44 and Luke 6:27-28 below: (*page 87*)

Matthew 5:43-44 (CSB) _____

Luke 6:27-28 (NASB) _____

3. Quote 1 Peter 3:9 (NIV) below: (*page 88*)

4. In 1 Peter 3:8, Peter provides a list of godly virtues that urge us to be like minded, sympathetic, loving, compassionate and humble. (*pages 88-89*)

a. To be like-minded is to be _____

b. When we understand and comfort people, _____

Lesson 9: Suffer for Righteousness and Do Good, Not Evil

c. By "loving one another", we are _____

d. We are compassionate when we are _____

e. When we are willing to listen to others, we are being _____

5. The virtues in 3:8 allow each of us to _____ each other and allow for us to see things the _____ way and have the same _____ and _____. These factors help to prevent the _____ from getting into "open doors" and finding access into a _____, or _____ fellowship, and thereby disrupting the unity that is necessary and _____ by Christ. (page 89)

6. Whether an _____ or a _____, people will knowingly, or sometimes unknowingly, continue to push our buttons. A common saying used by Christians is, "that person is making it very _____ for me to be a Christian"; however, none of this removes the _____ God has placed on us as His family. (page 89)

7. We should be "that person" that can resist the temptation and turn away anger by providing a gentle answer. Quote Proverbs 15:1 (NIV) below: (page 89)

8. It's easy to give into vengeance, an eye for an eye, when we feel that we have been unfairly treated or judged. Instead of revenge, list out at least two or three types of blessings a Christian can give to the person who is trying to instigate you: (pages 89-90)

9. The way we, as believers, respond to conflict, _____, and _____ is extremely important. The goal is to be _____ to walk in _____, experience unity that does not break, and to remain spiritually _____ as God intends. (page 90)

Lesson 9: Suffer for Righteousness and Do Good, Not Evil

10. 1 Peter 3:9 carries with it the reminder that God Himself gave us an _____ blessing instead of _____ - _____ someone for a wrongdoing is free, it doesn't cost you a thing other than making a choice, whereas judging others comes with a _____ in our thought life and our heart life. (page 90)
11. During the time period that Jesus walked the earth sharing His ministry, He always led by _____ what is exemplified in Psalm 34:12-16, but He never experienced the _____ that are promised - not until He ascended to Heaven. It was His purpose on earth to suffer for sin, not to experience the _____. (page 91)
12. As Christ followers, we really ought to be looking to _____ to help us discern all _____ properly and then react the way Jesus did. (page 92)
13. We will _____ be able to control what others say or how they say it, but we _____ control what we say and how we say it. (page 92)
14. We can experience a rich and joyful life, even while surrounded by hostility and junk that we believe is _____ and _____. The only requirements for a full life are that we live _____ with a loving attitude towards everyone (verse 3:8), pure and honest _____ (3:10), disdain sin and pursue _____ (3:11), and have right _____ that please the Lord (3:12). (page 92)
15. Our goal in life is to turn away from doing things that are _____ and _____, but it's also much more than that - we need to actually _____ things that bring _____. (page 92)
16. None of us will ever know how many times we have been pulled from the jaws of _____ until the day arrives that we are standing in front of Him. (page 93)
17. "His ears are _____ to their prayer" so that He can meet our various needs and cares. However, the truth is that sometimes this doesn't mean that He will keep, or prevent, believers from suffering, but it does mean that He will provide His grace in a way "to _____ and _____" believers while we are in the middle of suffering and in great times of need. (page 93)



***Lesson 10: Undeserved Suffering While
Following Christ***

Lesson 10

Undeserved Suffering While Following Christ

1. In 1 Peter 3:13-22, Peter is nudging us to accept the ideal that Christ followers are _____ even when they are suffering, **IF**, big if, they are suffering for the sake of _____. (page 95)
2. Christ died to bring people like ____ and _____, to the Father so that we can help other people just like _____ and _____. (page 95)
3. Peter is advising us to be prepared to _____ why we have _____, to maintain a good _____, and to remain aware of Christ's purpose and why he suffered. We are supposed to ALWAYS be ready! (page 96)
4. Quote 1 Peter 3:14 from the NET: (page 96)

5. In some translations Peter begins verse 3:14 with "*Even if*", or "*if you happen*" as shown from the NET, indicating that Peter was writing to people who were already suffering for their _____, therefore suffering is not _____, it is _____. (page 97)
6. Being blessed implies privilege and honor. Quote James 1:2 from your preferred translation below: (page 97)

7. In verse 2:10 and 3:14, Peter uses the Greek word *pascho* for _____. This word means to experience a sensation or impression that is usually painful. However, this is not necessarily a reference to things that are physical. Suffering can come in many forms such as _____ torment, societal and _____ torment, _____, etcetera. (page 97)
8. Believers may receive verbal _____, ridicule, and more, but it can only _____ us, or irritate and frustrate us, if we _____ it and/or if we decide to take _____ out of the equation. We need to recognize that simply being for _____ does not mean, or imply, that _____ will necessarily stop. (page 97)
9. Peter concludes 3:13 with a basic reference to Isaiah 8:12-13, inspiring believers not to be _____ by those who are trying to irritate and _____ them (i.e., to harm them), but to face them with the _____ of God. (page 98)

Lesson 10: Undeserved Suffering While Following Christ

10. Those that choose not to believe in Christ can't make sense of why believers have a _____ of God, nor can they comprehend why their _____ of God is stronger than _____ of man. *(page 98)*
11. Since the _____ is where Jesus resides, this is also where He prefers to be _____. *(page 98)*
12. To _____, in the modern sense, means to make holy - a process that begins with the initial _____, followed by the ongoing _____, and ending with the eventual _____.
(page 98)
13. A bad _____ accuses you and makes you feel guilty, _____, doubt, _____, anxiety, or _____. A free life, one lived under the command and authority of the _____, produces a "_____ conscience" which causes false accusers to feel the "shame" of their own conscience. *(page 99)*
14. Sometimes, Christ followers are not _____, and they continue to suffer from the slander and gossip - no matter how hard they try to overcome it. The comfort we still have, in this case, is that the Lord Himself will ultimately _____ the attacker. *(page 99)*
15. In the Old Testament, people suffered when they did _____ while they were blessed when they did _____. But, in the New Testament, the principle is that you should expect to suffer for doing _____.
(page 100)
16. The act of witnessing to the entire world in the 21st Century is that Christ followers are in more _____ locations today, and in more _____ territories than during the First Century, which by itself increases _____ to Christians in one form or another. *(page 100)*
17. In verse 3:18, Peter reminds us that Christ _____ and died as the _____ One in place of the unrighteous so that we, the _____, would be brought closer to God. This verse covers what some refer to as the "Doctrine of the _____" or "Theology of the Cross". *(page 100)*
18. Jesus did not _____ to give us permission to simply have a _____ day or continue behaving the same way with the same attitudes. The _____ live their lives with a pure _____, striving to be holy. *(page 101)*
19. _____ is something that happens by the will of God, His forgiveness of our sins, and by the obedience of our faith to follow Him. *(pages 101-102)*
 - a. Reconciliation is by the _____ of God.
 - b. Reconciliation is by the _____ of forgiveness.
 - c. Reconciliation happens by the _____ of faith.

Lesson 10: Undeserved Suffering While Following Christ

20. In verse 3:19, Peter makes mention about "spirits in prison". What is the deal with "spirits in prison"? There is quite a bit of debate about this within biblical scholar circles; Marcus dedicates space in the text for this discussion. What do you believe Peter meant by "spirits in prison"? It is recommended that you read into verse 3:20 to help with the answer. (pages 102-103)

21. The Greek word for "prison" is *phulake*, which means a place where someone is watched, guarded or kept in custody. Poetically speaking, in 3:19-20 Peter was referring to _____, or the _____, where demons and the souls of wicked men are committed and condemned. (page 103)

22. The Ark that Noah built saved eight people _____ the water (as opposed to being saved _____ the water). This is analogous to the hard truth that, even today, not everyone will be saved which further alludes to the type of suffering Noah endured as he preached to his generation who were _____ in their _____. (pages 103-104)

23. Eight people were saved **through** the water and now, "*baptism now saves you... through the _____ of Jesus Christ*". The eight people were not _____ by the water, but through it. The water served as final judgment for the _____ during the time of the flood, but it does not save the _____ today any more than it saved the eight people on the Ark. (page 104)

24. Peter reminds us that _____ saves us not because it removes dirt from our bodies but as an _____ to God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The act of _____ itself DOES NOT SAVE, it is because of our _____ of His action on the cross, which is symbolized by the _____, that saves. (page 104)

25. Belief that sins are _____ through the death of Christ and the believers _____ of faith through _____ is the "answer of a good conscience". This is why many link _____ as the moment of one's faith as symbolic of the person's salvation. (page 105)

26. Jesus now sits at the _____ of God in heaven with all things being subjected to Him. It is in this regard that all believers will ultimately _____ with Christ. (page 105)



Lesson 11: Leaving the Past Behind and Remaining Spirited in Love

Lesson 11

Leaving the Past Behind and Remaining Spirited in Love

1. Something that Christ did while in His _____ body, that we are to strive to follow by example, is to not give in to the _____ that our bodies want, but to give in to the _____ of God that our spirit needs. *(page 107)*
2. In our lives "_____ Christ" we hung out with people and did things with people, that we should now recognize, "_____ Christ", to be wrong. The people from our _____ life are going to be shocked, and possibly even _____ or threatened by this new attitude. *(page 107)*
3. The _____ that Peter has, in this letter, is that living by the example of Jesus, believers will show to others that this life is not _____ and boring, but _____ and exhilarating. *(page 108)*
4. Beginning with 4:1, Peter is advising Christ followers to live the example of Christ who "*suffered in His body*", and that believers should be prepared to live for the same purpose that Christ lived. Paul also stated something similar in Romans 6:10, quote Romans 6:10 below using your preferred translation: *(page 108)*

5. When we die to Christ - a metaphor for giving up our old life to a new life following Jesus - we identify with His _____, with His _____, and with His _____. *(page 108)*
6. Believers are to be _____, meaning focused and _____, to live a life with Christ that is unmistakably _____ (meaning the difference is obvious) than the life they were living "_____ Christ". *(page 109)*
7. In 4:2, Peter refers to "*no longer of _____ lusts*", meaning that whatever patterns we lived in our lives "_____ Christ" that kept us from Him, these patterns should no longer be _____. The expectation is that we now live "for the _____ of God". *(page 109)*
8. We need to remember, in the forefront of our _____, that the very day we accepted Jesus Christ we abandoned the _____ of men and are ceasing from _____. Not ceased, _____. *(page 109)*

Lesson 11: Leaving the Past Behind and Remaining Spirited in Love

9. In 4:3, Peter follows his "waste of time message" with a list of bad behaviors that, if we are honest, most of us either lived or are presently living: _____, drunkenness, _____ (i.e., raising hell), drinking parties, and hateful _____ worship. *(page 109)*
10. Peter recognized that _____ may struggle with their new Christianity perhaps a little more than Jewish converts and is suggesting that our past _____, and the past relationships that we may still be holding onto, may put _____ on us to backslide back into our _____ sinful behavior. *(page 110)*
11. Your _____ represents a reminder to unbelievers that they are doing _____ and they know it, but they do it anyway - your _____ convicts their conscience and makes them _____ and shameful. They don't like that _____ and they will likely manifest a form of _____ and self-justification. *(page 111)*
12. In the New Testament, the _____ is preaching about the good news, ironically and literally, about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and how believers are to respond in repentance, forgiveness, and faith. *(page 112)*
13. Before Jesus, the _____ message was a "come and see" message, but after Jesus, it became a mission to "_____". *(page 112)*

Notes



***Lesson 12: An Attitude of Urgency & Ethics for
the End Times***

Lesson 12

An Attitude of Urgency & Ethics for the End Times

1. Believers live knowing that the _____ is coming. As a result, we should be living committed in _____ while also serving as good stewards of the “spiritual” _____(s) the Lord has given us by His grace. *(page 113)*
2. Until the day comes when _____ returns, Peter tells us how we ought to be _____ and _____ in spirit and prayer in the present (today). *(page 114)*
3. In 4:8, Peter reminds us that above anything, we are to remain _____ in our love for one another, referring specifically for other _____. *(page 114)*
4. The Bible refers to _____ as a verb, an act, not an adjective nor an emotion. Because it is an action word, the Bible can _____ it as a decision that believers can make, it's a _____ to do something (or not). *(page 114)*
5. Lack of _____ erodes trust; lack of trust erodes _____; lack of confidence erodes fellowship. Love is the best _____ adjustment tool. *(page 114)*
6. In 4:9, Peter tells us that in addition to remaining committed in our love for all of our _____ and _____, we also need to be hospitable – and not complain about it, including those who don't agree with our _____. *(page 115)*
7. Every believer who has been born of the _____ and declares that Jesus is Lord has received at least one spiritual _____ from God as Peter alluded to in 4:10; _____ that were not earned but gracefully provided by Him. *(page 115)*
8. God given gifts are not to be confused with _____ that are developed by your own ability or your time spent years in training, these _____ are a reference to _____ supernaturally and divinely imparted by the spirit of God. These _____ can include special _____ in gardening, or in leadership, or in _____, or painting. You can also include those who have a special gift to _____, or lift up, people when they are downcast or upset. *(pages 115-116)*
9. For some of us, we are _____ on what we believe will be the perfect time to explore and use our gifts, but God is _____ on us to take ownership of them and use them _____. History shows that for those who have made dramatic and positive _____ in the world, they started that process based on a simple decision to just _____. *(page 116)*

Lesson 12: An Attitude of Urgency & Ethics for the End Times

10. It's time for you to recognize what God has placed inside of you so that you can begin using the _____ as God expects you to; it's up to you to start releasing them now for the _____ of those around you. *(page 117)*
11. Peter warns believers in 4:11 to speak _____ that are actual _____ of God (in other words, speak what you believe God is speaking, or if you prefer, speak what you believe God _____ you to speak). When speaking, we are to make sure that we speak in a way that _____ and glorifies God. *(page 117)*
12. Paul lists out speaking _____ in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10: words of _____, words of _____, words of _____, tongues, and interpretation of tongues. Some commentators also include teaching and exhortation as speaking gifts as outlined by Paul in Romans 12:6-8. *(page 117)*

Notes



***Lesson 13: Suffering Through Fiery Ordeals for
the Glory of God***

Lesson 13

Suffering Through Fiery Ordeals for the Glory of God

1. The ESV commentary states that God uses Christian suffering as a way to _____ the Church, which is why Christians need to give themselves over to God without crying and complaining. (*page 119*)
2. Peter explains that four attitudes are necessary in order to be triumphant in persecution: 1) _____ it, 2) _____ in it, 3) _____ the cause, and 4) _____ it to God. (*page 120*)
3. "Don't be surprised when fiery ordeals come". Junk doesn't typically happen by _____, usually someone did or said something that _____ the "fiery ordeal" to occur. (*page 120*)
4. For those of us that live in the USA, we are blessed to have laws that _____ and _____ religious liberty and _____; however, this does not mean that we shouldn't expect not to suffer from _____ from time to time. (*page 120*)
5. The very idea that we would live and preach a life that _____ only happens through Christ is considered by unbelievers to be pompous, _____, and disdainful. In fact, it irritates, _____, and angers many of them. (*page 120*)
6. Whenever _____ are involved, stuff is just going to _____. Christ won't let you down, but _____ will. (*page 121*)
7. "_____ " are not strange, they are normal. However, what one person may consider a "fiery ordeal" might seem like a proverbial "cake walk" to others. (*page 122*)
8. While we are partnered with _____ in His suffering, in 4:13 Peter is saying that we will never experience the same level of suffering that He did, but a _____ of it - we should keep rejoicing anyway. (*page 122*)
9. A secondary effect of rejoicing while suffering is that it reduces the _____ impact on our _____ - even if only a little. (*page 122*)
10. Christ was _____ when He was walking the earth, so it shouldn't be a shock when Christ followers are also _____ as they are following Him the way scripture tells us to. (*page 122*)

Lesson 13: Suffering Through Fiery Ordeals for the Glory of God

11. Our natural tendency might be to dwell on our own _____ and shortcomings when _____ or ridiculed because of our faith in "the name of Christ", but this is what the _____ wants you to do. As Peter reminds us in 4:14, the truth is that " _____ ", because you have been chosen by God and are part of His elect. *(page 123)*
12. While our natural inclination might be to dwell on our _____, it is God's natural inclination to _____ us up during the moments we do that. The natural result will be, for some unbelievers anyway, that others will _____ see the results we experience while suffering and want the same thing. This is when the _____ begins to break down their _____ barriers (as well as the ones they've been trained, taught, and educated to have) and allow them to see God's _____. *(page 123)*
13. When insecurities pop up, some may question how to know if rejection is our fault or if it is due to "the name of Christ" within us? *(page 123)* One answer given by Peter is to _____

14. If you are a _____, a thief, an evildoer, or a _____ troublemaker, then perhaps your rejection is justified - this is why Peter is advising us, in 4:15, not to be, to do, or participate in any of that "stuff".
(page 123)
15. Emotional _____ may not necessarily be from God, it could be your own flesh. God will only equip you with everything you need ____ He has called you to it. Else, it is our godly duty to _____.
(page 124)
16. It shouldn't take much effort to _____ at ourselves and the way we are _____. If, after examining yourself, you find that your _____ is clear and God is pleased, yet you are still suffering for the simple fact of being a Christian, then Peter reminds us in 4:16 that we have nothing to be _____ about. *(page 124)*
17. In 4:17, Peter advises us that the _____ will be judged first, before those that _____ the gospel.
(page 125)
18. Peter doesn't say what the outcome of _____ might be for _____ or _____, but, if taken into context with other scriptures of the New Testament in totality, we can safely assert that the outcome for _____ will be condemnation while _____ will be rewarded. *(page 125)*
19. In 4:18 Peter points out that it is with "difficulty" that the _____ will be saved, indicating that even the _____ barely make it, it is close. If the justified _____ is saved with "difficulty" while suffering pain and loss - what do you think will be the end for the _____? *(page 125)*

Lesson 13: Suffering Through Fiery Ordeals for the Glory of God

20. Peter concludes in 4:19 by further exhorting that those "*who suffer _____ to the will of God*" are to place their complete and total _____ in God that He will be _____ and do what He promised - that He will take care of us for doing what was _____ while obeying Him. (*page 125*)
21. The greater our _____, faith, and _____ in Him, the more "stuff" rolls off of us while we still live _____, serving as a witness to those that are doing the mocking. (*page 126*)



***Lesson 14: Leading the Flock of God Willingly
and Responsibly***

Lesson 14

Leading the Flock of God Willingly and Responsibly

1. " _____ " is a scriptural and biblical reference to those who hold the pastoral office of the Church, used interchangeably in scripture with the words shepherd, pastor, and even overseer. *(page 127)*
2. All are to operate in _____, for God opposes the proud while giving grace to the humble. *(page 128)*
3. When the Church, or members of the Church, suffer through trials and/or persecution, this is when the Church needs its most _____ leadership. *(page 129)*
4. The " _____ " is a person who is filling a role as a Shepherd, a person who is spiritually mature and emotionally intelligent. The word is translated from the Greek *presbuteros*, which is a word borrowed from the Jewish synagogue as it draws a picture of experience, _____, and authority. *(page 129)*
5. Peter was writing in the plural, to a group of Elders, which indicates that there is, traditionally, _____ _____ Elder per church body who help to oversee and take care of God's children. *(page 129)*
6. As the First Century Church was being planted in various villages, cities, and regions, it was typically always accomplished through the efforts of the _____. *(page 129)*
7. An _____ was normally attached to a local church, but he also served the churches within his jurisdiction in ministry as well as a primary source of revelation and teaching to the local church _____. *(page 129)*
8. Peter was motivating his readers through their anticipation of the _____, that one day they will receive a _____ from the hand of Jesus Christ Himself for the services they were fulfilling under His Name. *(pages 129-130)*
9. Knowing that Peter had personally _____ Christ's suffering and His _____ (meaning His resurrection and ascension), and personally participated in the Lord's _____, gives Peter added _____ with his readers. *(page 130)*
10. The primary role of the modern day _____ is to provide oversight, which partly consists of the command to "feed the flock"; which means to _____, and _____ should be able to teach. *(page 130)*
11. If any church leader implies some form of _____ ownership over responsibility, this is a sign that _____ has reared its ugly head. *(page 130)*

Lesson 14: Leading the Flock of God Willingly and Responsibly

12. Elders should never feel " _____ " to serve but serve " _____ ", as instructed by God; they should not serve simply because they were asked by another leader in the church. *(page 130)*
13. In 5:2, Peter was advising Elders not to be _____, warning that _____ is one of the first dangers that they would be confronted with. The idea is that the importance of the task, along with the _____ calling of serving as an Elder, prevent Elders from being _____ and indifferent. *(page 130)*
14. Scripture indicates that churches should _____ their shepherds, but true shepherds, which includes pastors and Elders, should not use their power and influence to rob people of their wealth, either through _____ or _____. *(page 131)*
15. Another way Peter describes the wrong motivation for the office of Elder is found in 5:3 - the desire to exercise authority simply for the sake of _____. " _____ " means to dominate someone over particular situations and events. *(page 131)*
16. Temptations for Elders include laziness, finances, and _____, which is seeking support by appealing to the prejudices of people rather than being rational. *(page 131)*
17. " _____ " also involves the manipulation of people rather than leading people for their highest good. It is a worldly model of leadership that Jesus said was _____ to his disciples. It's possible that Peter was recalling Jesus own words from Matthew 25:25-28. *(pages 131-132)*
18. Just like any leadership role, Elders have been given a duty, an expression that implies a _____ responsibility, in which they are accountable to _____ for how they lead. Leaders are not acquiring _____ for their own benefit; instead, God is bringing _____ to them. *(page 132)*
19. Elders are considered _____ of souls who are accountable to the _____ Shepherd; Jesus Christ is the Chief Shephard who " _____ " at the second coming, and He will _____ His ministers, specifically Elders in the case of this letter, from His _____. *(pages 132)*
20. As Peter shares in 5:4, if the Elders have been _____ and faithful to the doctrines and commands of Christ, then He will _____ them in eternal glory that will not _____. *(pages 132-133)*
21. When Christians say things like " _____ ", we mean that you were being obedient to what God wants you to do, what He wants you to say, and how He wants you to say it. *(page 133)*
22. In 5:5, Peter was advising _____ people to submit themselves to _____. The Greek word for younger is *neos*, meaning _____ and _____. *(page 133)*

Lesson 14: Leading the Flock of God Willingly and Responsibly

23. We all need help regardless of where we are "spiritually". The Lord demands that "*all of you be _____ one to another*". (page 134)
24. If we are going to allow ourselves to be corrected, when necessary, we should always operate in a condition of humility, which is what Peter means when he tell us to "_____". (page 134)
25. The opposite of humility is _____ and a person operating in a condition of _____ will resist correction; in turn, God will resist giving out grace to those filled with _____. (page 134)
26. Being _____ means that you are modest, or not high in attitude or position. _____ is an inward response to the idea of submission. (page 134)
27. _____, and other church leaders, *must* take their responsibilities _____ as they can severely damage the _____ and _____ of their congregants. (page 135)
28. Church leaders are held to a higher standard of _____, _____, and Christian behavior than others of the congregation. This behavior is developed in _____ church leader as he or she matures and develops spiritually and emotionally – and also why Elders must be _____ mature and emotionally _____ before occupying the seat of Elder. (pages 135-136)



***Lesson 15: Maintain an Attitude of Submission
to God***

Lesson 15

Maintain an Attitude of Submission to God

1. It is _____ that advances us with God and with other people around us - the opposite being that we can be _____, arrogant, and conceited. *(page 137)*
2. When we are _____, God will exalt us at the _____, and this requires character of _____ because we don't know when "the right time" will be. *(page 137)*
3. When _____ comes, we must remind ourselves that we are ultimately called into the Lord's eternal _____ which is found only in Christ. The devil can't touch that _____, but we can give up and lose it. *(page 137)*
4. Attitudes that are necessary for the Christ follower to mature and grow in Christ include _____, humility, _____, sober mindedness, vigilant defense, _____, worship, and _____. *(page 138)*
5. Our _____ attitudes are to take place under the "*mighty _____*", which is both an incentive and a reason for humility. If we rely too much on _____, we slowly, and almost discretely, remove ourselves from a sense of God's sovereignty. *(page 138)*
6. "*The mighty _____*" assures us that we are always accomplishing His purpose and not our own. *(page 139)*
7. The believer is to be completely and wholly _____ and _____ to the Lord so that we will be glorified "in due time", which most likely refers to the return of Christ. *(page 139)*
8. Failure to _____ oneself and _____ to God implies the direct opposite, meaning that we are self-concerned while exalting ourselves as we _____ our own efforts. *(page 139)*
9. In 5:7, Peter is partly quoting from Psalm 55:22. "_____" means to cast aside without regard to caring or concern. Peter is advising his readers to _____ off all forms of negative emotions or feelings and give them to God and trust Him with what He is doing. *(page 139)*
10. In Matthew 6:25, Jesus told us not to be _____ about our lives and in John 14:1 He exhorts us to not let our hearts be _____. In both verses, the answer is to place ALL our _____, and _____, in God - to cast our worries aside. *(page 140)*

Lesson 15: Maintain an Attitude of Submission to God

11. We suffer _____ when it seems to us that things in which we are comfortable with, or have gotten comfortable with, are being threatened. Oftentimes, it is our _____ or _____ have been threatened. *(page 140)*
12. Just because Christ followers believe in the _____ of God does not mean that we live carelessly and _____, we must always remain _____ against outside forces that seek to influence, _____, and mislead or misdirect us. *(page 141)*
13. The _____ is not omnipresent or omniscient, which means that he can't be in multiple places or times at the same time. Some believers forget this and tend to give way too much _____ to the devil when they are causing or creating our own _____ situations, or they are simply being _____ and call it "an attack of the devil". *(pages 141-142)*
14. To "_____ " means that we need to be realistic about our natural tendency to think that we can either take care of it ourselves, fears we have about our _____, or fear that God won't be there for you when you need Him. *(page 142)*
15. As we _____ and _____ ourselves, we should take time to recognize and give thanks for what God has accomplished in us, not the _____ that we think we did ourselves. *(page 142)*
16. The _____ is hungry for opportunities to accuse God to _____, to accuse men to _____ before God's throne, and to accuse _____ amongst other men. The _____ wants to convince you to abandon God or to make you believe that God has abandoned you. *(page 142)*
17. It is _____ who is roaring and _____, looking and searching for Christ followers who he can terrify in the middle of the night or during a _____ so that they will be deceived and fall. *(page 142)*
18. In verse 5:9, Peter tells us to resist the _____, which means to _____ or stand up against. No matter what anyone says, there is no "magic formula" or "bible secret" to _____ the devil - it is 100% about you standing fast on your _____ in the knowledge of who _____ are, who _____ is, and who you are in _____. *(page 143)*
19. The ability to _____ implies that you have been _____, and continue to live, your life according to the _____ of _____, which further implies that you are spending personal time in the Word of God. *(page 143)*
20. Whatever you are going _____, it is not _____ to you. Someone else has already experienced the same thing, is _____ experiencing the same thing, or is (or has) experiencing things that are significantly _____ and more dramatic than what you are going through. *(page 143)*

Lesson 15: Maintain an Attitude of Submission to God

21. There is no need to be afraid of _____, the Lord has _____ us with everything we need to _____ and stand against him, but this does require that we stand firm in our _____.
(pages 143-144)
22. One of the concepts that modern day Christians may have challenges with is that some of _____ purposes won't be known until the _____ - and in some cases, that future may be when we are standing in front of _____. Peter wants his readers to know that, when suffering, we should continue to live our _____ in a way that the _____ of God is still manifesting in us. (page 144)
23. We are being _____ by the Lord right in the middle of our _____, in real time, as we are "suffering".
(page 144)
24. Verse 5:10 includes four verbs, that represent the impact that God's grace has on you while under "attack".
"After you have suffered a while", God will _____ you, _____ you, _____ you, and _____ you.
(page 144)
- a. _____ pertains to the furthering of our sanctification
 - b. _____ brings us to consistent Christian living.
 - c. _____ refers to spiritual power.
 - d. _____ means that we are gaining confidence in our salvation.
25. The amount of time we _____ is nothing when compared to a future life in _____ with Christ.
(page 145)



Lesson 16: The Grand Finale: Farewell and Peace

Lesson 16

The Grand Finale: Farewell and Peace

1. _____ was an associate of the two most popular apostles of the time, Paul and Peter. He was also called Silas and is believed to have both composed and delivered Peter's first letter. (page 147)
2. As _____ physically wrote the letter, it is possible that he included his own _____ and _____ into the letter. (page 148)
3. Peter concludes 5:12 by affirming that the letter was _____, delivered, and _____, by "*the true grace of God*" and further emphasizing that Christians must "_____ " on the faith of God even while in the middle of persecution and suffering. (page 148)
4. Many commentators suggest that _____ is the primary theme of this letter; however, Marcus agrees with those that believe that the expectation of _____ is the overriding theme and problem presented in the letter, but _____ is brought in as the solution/answer to how believers survive and conduct themselves through the _____ they endure - all due to the glory of God. (page 149)
5. In 5:13, _____, a reference to the Old Testament city in Mesopotamia, was already in ruins at the time this letter was written, but because of _____ chaotic history with _____, the reference to the city represented opposition to God as well as a place of exile. (page 149)
6. _____, who is mentioned at the end of 5:13, is the same _____ who wrote the Gospel of _____, who many believe was aided by Peter in writing it. He is also the same _____ who traveled with Paul and Barnabas during their first missionary journey as written about in the Book of Acts. (page 149)
7. The reference to greeting "*one another with _____* " in the final verse of the letter is similar to references about a "holy kiss" as found in other passages of scripture such as Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20, and 1 Thessalonians 5:26. This would be equivalent to the modern day "_____ ". (page 150)

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About the Author

Marcus is a military veteran, retiring from the US Army after 20 years of service as both an enlisted soldier and commissioned officer. After his retirement, he served in multiple senior executive positions in both the private and public sectors. Marcus answered the call to the Lord when he was almost 40 years old, prior to which he lived his life wandering lost with no hope.

Marcus left Corporate America in 2019 and founded FHGH Ministries with his wife of 32 years, Julee. He and Julee are the parents of two sons and a daughter, one of whom died in 2011 while serving in the Air Force in the country of Qatar.

Marcus has a Doctorate in IT Leadership (ABD) and a Doctor of Ministry. He is known for being honest and transparent about the struggles and challenges of life, but he also believes that it is the lies men tell themselves, and each other, every day that are killing them. However, he also knows that it is the love, grace, and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that is the HOPE for all – our source of Joy and Peace in the world today.

Marcus is currently the author of three books, one of which won an International Award in 2020, and regularly writes articles for Christian magazines and blog sites.

