



**METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY**  
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES  
For the week of Apr 1 – Apr 7, 2017  
Lesson #2: **“Feed My Sheep” – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter**



## **An Inheritance Incorruptible**

**Main Text for The Week:** *"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently" (1 Peter 1:22, KJV).*

**Read and Meditate on these Texts:**

*1 Pet. 1:1, 2; John 3:16; Ezek. 33:11; 1 Pet. 1:3-21; Lev. 11:44, 45; 1 Pet. 1:22-25.*

**Main Thought for the Week:** In last week's study we met Peter a fisherman one of the twelve disciples, a spokesman and Chief of the Apostles, who was personally commissioned by Jesus to feed His flock, the church. This week we will see how Peter fulfilled that commission in his personal letters that he wrote to the church of God. We will discover that Peter's primary audience was the church of the first century; but under divine inspiration he wrote instructions that will feed and encourage the church centuries removed from the settings of the earlier believers to whom he wrote primarily.



## To The Exiles

**Sunday Summary:** April 2:

1. What credential does Peter highlight that gives authority to his message in his first letter to the believers? (1 Peter 1:1) \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Did the Apostle Paul ever highlight his own credentials to Ministry as Peter did in the text above? (Galatians 1:1; Romans 1:1; Ephesians 1:1) \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. **Discussion:** Though Peter mentioned strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia as his primary audience for his letter (1 Peter 1:1)); how do you think his message applies to us today as a church? \_\_\_\_\_  
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**PERSONAL STUDY THOUGHTS:** There are controversies among so-called theologians as to who were Peter’s audience (whether Jews, Gentile converts, etc.) that he called strangers scattered.... One thing is for certain, that the church today continues to be exiled in this wicked world of sin. There is no doubt that the exiles and strangers that Peter refers to in 1 Peter 1:1 applies to us as well as to the original believers in the areas mentioned in the text.

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Elected

### Monday Summary: April 3:

1. What else do we know for certain concerning those to whom Peter writes in 1 Peter 1:2? \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. There are some persons who misunderstand Peter's concept about those whom God elects to be saved. What do the following texts clearly reveal about the truth concerning God's elect?
  - a. 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9 \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - b. John 3:16; Ezekiel 33:11 \_\_\_\_\_

**THOUGHT:** Scripture makes it clear that it was God's plan for everyone to be saved, a plan instituted in our behalf even before the creation of the earth: "*according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world*" (Eph. 1:4, KJV)

**Appeal:** God did not choose some people at random to be saved and others to be lost. If that were the case, you and I would be very uncertain about our salvation. Why don't you give God a personal praise right now, in gratitude for being a part of the elect who are saved in and through Jesus Christ His Son? \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Key Themes

### Tuesday Summary: April 4:

**Discussion Summary Thoughts:** In his greeting to his readers in 1 Peter 1:1, 2, Peter has already mentioned the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (1 Pet. 1:2). The three members of the Godhead form the subject of 1 Peter 1:3-12. The Father and the Son are the topic of 1 Peter 1:3-9, and the Holy Spirit is prominent in 1 Peter 1:10-12.

1. What is Peter's main message in 1 Peter 1:3 (See: John 3:7) \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. What event in the life of Jesus' Ministry on earth does Peter say is key to the Christian's hope? (1 Peter 1:3-4) \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ILLUMINATION:** This hope gives Christians a reason to rejoice, despite the fact that many of those reading 1 Peter are suffering. This suffering tests and refines their faith, just as fire tests and refines gold. Even though Peter's readers have not seen Jesus during His earthly ministry, they love Him and believe in Him. And the outcome of their faith in Him is salvation and the promise of "an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you" (1 Pet. 1:4, KJV).

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Living The Life of Salvation

**Wednesday Summary:** April 5:

**Discussion Thought:** 1 Peter 1:4 says that there is an inheritance “reserved in heaven for you.” Think about that on a personal level; there is a specific place reserved in heaven just for you, personally. Then how should you personally respond to this wonderful promise? \_\_\_\_\_

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1. What does Peter mean when he counsels the saints to: “Gird up the loins of your mind”? (1 Peter 1:13) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Peter notes three of the great motivations that lie behind Christian behavior; Explain each in your own words:
  - a. the character of God (1 Pet. 1:15, 16) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. the coming judgment (1 Pet. 1:17) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. the cost of redemption (1 Pet. 1:17-21) \_\_\_\_\_

**ILLUMINATION:** If a Muslim sincerely asks you to explain to him ‘what motivates you to be a Christian, what would be your honest answer? \_\_\_\_\_

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**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Love One Another

### Thursday Summary: April 6:

1. What does Peter say is the ultimate expression of living a holy, faithful Christian life? (1 Peter 1:22) \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Peter clearly affirms that Christians are born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God. What do you understand by this? (1 Peter 1:23). \_\_\_\_\_

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**Discussion Question:** If we are born again of the incorruptible seed of God's Word, through the working of the Holy Spirit, and brought into the divine nature through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:22-23); why is it that we fail to see and love each other as brothers and sisters in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

**Appeal:** Have you been hurt by a church brother or sister? Have you cause a fellow church member hurt yourself? How about a blood family member who is a believer that is at a strained relationship with you? Do this right now: ask God for the strength, courage and boldness to forgive or to ask forgiveness of such a one and make a phone call today to make up with that person (Matthew 18:5, 21-22). Do it and watch the Holy Spirit work wonders in your life (on the authority of the Word of the Living God [Matthew 6:14-15]).

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# An Inheritance Incorruptible

**Friday Summary:** April 7:

**ILLUMINATION:** “His [Peter’s] letters were the means of reviving the courage and strengthening the faith of those who were enduring trial and affliction, and of renewing to good works those who through manifold temptations were in danger of losing their hold upon God.” - Ellen G. White, *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 517.

1. Twice does Peter bring up the subject of Christ’s Resurrection in (1 Peter 1:3, 21); what is it that is so important about the resurrection to our faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Peter talks about an ‘inheritance incorruptible’. What does that mean in light of Daniel 7:18? \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Appeal:** The Holy Spirit worked through the prophets to outline the days in which Peter and his readers live. As a consequence, Christians should live holy lives, filled with obedience to the truth, in communities that are characterized by the kind of love that comes from a “pure heart”. **Do you pledge today to so order your life?**

**Final Thoughts:** It’s amazing how rich and deep this first chapter of Peter is and how much ground it covers. Peter begins his epistle with a meditation on the character of the Godhead, bringing in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father has provided a Savior in His Son, Jesus Christ, and we are elected in Him for sanctification and obedience. We come to love Jesus, and in Him we rejoice with exalted joy because, through His death and resurrection, we have the promise of an “inheritance incorruptible” in heaven. Even amid trials, then, we can greatly rejoice in the salvation offered us in Christ.

