

PERSEVERE WITH PETER

LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

Meeting **THEME: Win the war – with beautiful behaviour**

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group's meeting. Read I Peter 2:11 – 3:7

20.00 – 20.10 Start Is there a situation where you were or are treated in an unrespectful way? Do you want to share? What happened? How did you feel? How did you respond?

20.10 – 20.15 Pray.

20.15 – 20.40 Bible passage: Read I Peter 2:11 – 3:7

Look again at 2:11-12

- These verses contain the aim of the whole letter. What is that aim, if you summarise it in your own words?

Look again at 2:13-17

- Wouldn't it have been self-evident for Peter's readers to be subject to the authorities? If not – why not?

Look again at 2:18-20

- 'not only to the good and gentle'. What if you were such a slave, how would Peter's words have felt?
- 'a gracious thing' – what does Peter mean? (if you can't find an answer, first turn to the next couple of verses)

Look again at 2:21-25

When someone was crucified, the crucified normally cried out curses and threats. Not so with Jesus. He was not crucified because of his own sins and faults, but by being crucified he was saving us.

- What is Peter's aim in writing these verses? How do these verses cohere with the preceding and following verses?

Look again at 3:1-7

Not a very easy passage for today! Some simply dismiss it as time-bound and obsolete. But read and listen carefully. Don't judge before you have understood what the word of God really says here.

- 'Likewise'/'in the same way' (vs. 1 and vs. 7): what is the function of this word?
- How should we interpret what Peter writes to the wives concerning their husbands?
- Often women were treated in a disrespectful way in those days. How is that now? And to what does Peter exhort his readers and why?

20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper

Take two or three minutes of silence and prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to see how/where/wherein this passage contains a perhaps painful but also powerful challenge for you. Share (without discussion) and pray for each other.

20.50 – 21.00 End the Life Group meeting with praying together.