

1 Peter 4:7–5:14

Memory Verse: *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you* (1 Pet. 5:7 NIV).

Lesson Helps:



Once again this section lends itself to two alternative lesson plans:

1. Coping with trials or, more specifically, with persecution. Your text here is 1 Peter 4:12-19 and 5:6-11. How are the trials described? What instructions are given for coping with such trials? What kinds of persecution have you suffered? How are other believers in the world suffering today? You might try role playing several situations and discuss a proper Christian response to each one. For example:
 - a. Someone expresses surprise that you attend church so frequently.
 - b. Someone mocks Christ, the Bible, or another Christian in your presence.
 - c. Someone accuses you of being bigoted or narrow minded because you believe Jesus is the only way to God or because of a certain moral standard you hold (e.g., homosexuality is wrong).

Also, spend some time praying for persecuted believers in other lands.

2. Serving Christ until he comes. Your text here is 1 Peter 4:7-11. Notice the very practical ways we are to be occupied as we await the end: prayer (v.7), love (v.8), hospitality (v.9), and using our spiritual gifts (vv. 10, 11). These last two verses provide an opportunity to give some basic teaching on spiritual gifts and to challenge your students to serve the Lord.

Assignment:

-  Read 2 Peter 1:1–2:9.
-  Memorize 2 Peter 1:10.