

Life Group Discussion Guide

Exiles in Our Land: Standing as God's People with God's People
Week 5: Foreigners at War • 1 Peter 2:11-17

Read 1 Peter 2:11-17 together. Focus on recurring themes, words, and phrases. As you reflect on this passage and Pastor Brent's message, what are your initial impressions or takeaways? What stood out to you most?

We Are Exiles in a Country at War

1 Peter 2:11 Peter reminds us that we are living in a hostile environment waging war against us.

- Read **1 John 2:15-17** and discuss the three ways the world wars against us.

Lust of the Flesh

Discuss the different forms of temptation we face in our flesh; how does our current culture shape this war compared to previous generations?

Lust of the Eyes

Scripture tells us that our eyes are windows into the _____. What does this mean? How does what we allow our eyes to see affect our hearts?

Pride of Life

God is very clear when He warns His children of the dangers of pride. Using your concordance (or phone), discuss a few other verses highlighting pride's consequences.

We Are Exiles Who Are Under Observation

1 Peter 2:12 There is a watching world that is waiting to see how Christians respond in every situation. Jesus teaches this principle in the gospel of Matthew.

- Read **Matthew 5:14-16** and share real-life examples of how to live this way, from either your own life or someone you know.
- What are some ways we hide our light? How can we as a church help each other in this area?
- Do you think participating in missions trips (both short- and long-term) can help equip you to let your shine? Have you ever been on a mission trip? How did that experience impact how you shine your light after you came back?

We Are Exiles Who Are Under Authority

1 Peter 2:13-17 We are exiles bound by a foreign government that may or may not be accepting of Jesus and His followers, but Peter does not give any conditions to his command for submission.

- Discuss what Pastor Brent shared about life in Rome during the time of Peter. Who was the leader at the time? How were Christians treated?
- Read **Romans 13:1-7**. Knowing the context of what life was like in Rome, how might the recipients of Paul's letter have reacted to his instruction here?
- How does our submission to a sinful government honor God?
- Read **1 Peter 2:16** – what does it mean to live “as free people” and also “as God's slaves”?

