

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 5:2-9 Lesson #18

\*\*INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in First Peter before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.

2-4 **SHEPHERD the FLOCK of God** which is among you, serving as overseers (pastors), not by constraint (being forced) but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; not as being lords over those ENTRUSTED to you, but being examples to the flock; and **when the CHIEF SHEPHERD APPEARS, you will receive the CROWN of GLORY** that does not fade away.

• **Ezekiel 34:11-12** “For thus says the Lord God, ‘Behold, I \_\_\_\_\_ will search for My \_\_\_\_\_ and seek them out. As a shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ for his herd in the day when he is among his scattered \_\_\_\_\_, so I will \_\_\_\_\_ for My \_\_\_\_\_ and will \_\_\_\_\_ them from all the places to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day.’”

• **Luke 15:3-7** “So \_\_\_\_\_ spoke this parable (a story illustrating something about God) to them saying, ‘What man of you, having a hundred \_\_\_\_\_, if He \_\_\_\_\_ one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the \_\_\_\_\_ which is \_\_\_\_\_ until He finds it? And when He has \_\_\_\_\_ it, He lays it on His shoulders, \_\_\_\_\_. And when He comes home, He calls together His \_\_\_\_\_ and neighbors, saying to them, \_\_\_\_\_ with Me, for I have \_\_\_\_\_ My \_\_\_\_\_ which was lost!’ I say to you that likewise (in the same way) there will be more \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ over one \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.’”

• **James 1:12** “Blessed is the man who endures temptation (suffering); for when he has been \_\_\_\_\_, he will receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ which the Lord has promised to those who \_\_\_\_\_ Him.”

**Definition: “SHEPHERD the FLOCK of God” – Jesus is the Chief Shepherd of His FLOCK of SHEEP, the church.** He is also called **the GOOD SHEPHERD**, and He OWNS the sheep, but there are many under-shepherds (pastors, ministers of churches, Sunday School teachers, etc.). **Those who have a TRUE GIFT from God to pastor or shepherd His flock, will do so eagerly and freely.** However, there will always be some who serve in the church out of wrong motives - either for money, prestige, pride of position, or desire for power. Jesus says these people are just “hirelings” who do not really love and care for His sheep. Jesus will REWARD those who are GOOD under-shepherds and really care for His sheep, and that is what it means when it says, **“When the CHIEF SHEPHERD APPEARS, you will receive the crown of glory.”** That **“crown of glory”** is a special reward for **pastors and teachers who loved and took good care of His flock.**

• **Psalm 95:6-7** “Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the \_\_\_\_\_ of His \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of His hand....”

• **John 10:11-13** “I am the good \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ shepherd gives His \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_. But he who is a hireling and not the shepherd, one who does not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a \_\_\_\_\_ and does \_\_\_\_\_ care about the sheep.”

• **Ephesians 4:11-13** “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, for the

\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ for the work of \_\_\_\_\_, for the edifying (building up) of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect (mature) man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

• **Acts 20:28-31** “Therefore take \_\_\_\_\_ to yourselves and to all the \_\_\_\_\_, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God which He purchased with \_\_\_\_\_ own \_\_\_\_\_. For I know this, that after my departure savage \_\_\_\_\_ will come in among you, not sparing the \_\_\_\_\_. Also from among yourselves \_\_\_\_\_ will rise up, \_\_\_\_\_ perverse (twisted) things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore \_\_\_\_\_, and remember that for three years I did not cease to \_\_\_\_\_ everyone night and day with tears.”

• **John 10:14-15** “I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_; and I know My sheep, and am \_\_\_\_\_ by My \_\_\_\_\_. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Isaiah 40:11** “Like a \_\_\_\_\_ He will tend His \_\_\_\_\_, in His arm He will gather the \_\_\_\_\_, and carry them in His bosom; He will \_\_\_\_\_ lead the nursing ewes.”

• **Micah 5:2-5a** (Verse 4) “And He will arise and \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_ in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God. And they will remain, because at that time He will be great to the ends of the earth. And this One will be our Peace....”

• **Hebrews 13:20-21** “Now may the \_\_\_\_\_ of peace who brought \_\_\_\_\_ our Lord \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_, that great \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever, Amen.”

**Definition: “He will RECEIVE the CROWN of LIFE”** – This is NOT talking about the gift of eternal life. **We do NOT EARN our salvation/eternal life by going through trials and sufferings.** This is talking about **receiving REWARDS when we get to heaven.** For more about rewards when we get to heaven, see I Corinthians 3:10-16. Jesus said we should lay up for ourselves treasure in heaven, and these different types of crowns seem to be part of that heavenly treasure and reward (Matthew 6:19-21).

• **Revelation 3:11** “Behold, I come \_\_\_\_\_! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Revelation 4:4** “Around the \_\_\_\_\_ were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white \_\_\_\_\_; and they had \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ on their heads.”

• **Revelation 4:9-10** “Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the \_\_\_\_\_, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and \_\_\_\_\_ Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their \_\_\_\_\_ before the throne....”

• **II Timothy 4:8** “Finally, there is laid up for \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to \_\_\_\_\_ only, but also to all who have \_\_\_\_\_ His appearing.”

• **I Corinthians 3:12-15** “Now if anyone \_\_\_\_\_ on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become manifest; for the Day (of judgment) will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will \_\_\_\_\_ each

one's \_\_\_\_\_, of what sort it is. If anyone's \_\_\_\_\_ which he has built on it (*on the foundation of Christ*) endures, he will \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_. If anyone's \_\_\_\_\_ is burned, he will suffer loss; but he \_\_\_\_\_ will be \_\_\_\_\_, yet so as through fire."

5-7 Likewise you younger people, **SUBMIT yourselves to your ELDERS**. Yes, all of you **be submissive to one another**, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the Proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **CASTING ALL your CARE upon HIM, for He cares for you**.

• **Proverbs 3:34** "Surely He \_\_\_\_\_ the scornful, but \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_."

• **Ephesians 5:21** "\_\_\_\_\_ to one \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

• **Galatians 5:13** "For you, brethren, have been called to \_\_\_\_\_; only do not use liberty as an \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_, but through \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ one another."

**Definition: "SUBMISSIVE or SUBMITTING"** — Being HUMBLE or compliant; YIELDING to the authority or control of another — the **opposite** of REBELLIOUS. There is no place for PRIDE or selfish ambition in the church, the body of Christ. Peter tells the members of the church to be submissive to their ELDERS, which would mean the church leaders, but he also says "**be submissive to one another**" which means to ALL members of the church. We are not to push to have our own way, or try to CONTROL others in the church, but be **HUMBLE** and put others ahead of our own selves and our own interests.

• **Philippians 2:3** "Let \_\_\_\_\_ be done through \_\_\_\_\_ ambition or \_\_\_\_\_, but in lowliness (humility) of mind let each esteem (regard) \_\_\_\_\_ better than \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "God resists the PROUD, but gives grace to the HUMBLE"** – We need to **WORK on our ATTITUDE** and ASK for the faith, trust, and patience to put everything in God's hands and **LEAVE the RESULTS up to Him**. **Don't try to tell God HOW YOU think He ought to answer your prayers**. You can put it all in God's hands because He loves you and wants what is best for you. If you keep on insisting that God answer your prayers YOUR WAY and on YOUR SCHEDULE or timing, **that is really a form of PRIDE**, and "**God resists the proud**".

• **Proverbs 3:5-6** "Trust in the \_\_\_\_\_ with all your heart, and do not \_\_\_\_\_ on your own \_\_\_\_\_. In \_\_\_\_\_ your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "CASTING ALL your CARE upon HIM, for He cares for you"** – "**CASTING ALL your CARE upon HIM**" means throwing all your cares (worries, anxieties, fears, stresses, and feelings of being overwhelmed) upon the Lord. God is Your Loving Heavenly Father, and He REALLY DOES want to supply your needs, and He DOES have your best interests in mind, because "**He cares for you**." Even when He allows trials and tests to come into your life, it is always for your good.

• **Philippians 4:19** "But my God shall \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

• **Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the \_\_\_\_\_ that I have for \_\_\_\_\_," declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare (your good) and not for calamity, to give you a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.'"

- **Romans 8:28** “And we know that \_\_\_\_\_ things \_\_\_\_\_ together for \_\_\_\_\_ to those who \_\_\_\_\_ God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”
- **Matthew 7:11** “If you then, being evil, know how to give \_\_\_\_\_ gifts to your children, how much \_\_\_\_\_ will your \_\_\_\_\_ who is in \_\_\_\_\_ give \_\_\_\_\_ things to those who ask Him!”
- **Matthew 6:33** “But seek \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and His righteousness, and \_\_\_\_\_ these \_\_\_\_\_ shall be added to (provided for) you.”

8-9 **Be SOBER, be VIGILANT; because your adversary (enemy) the DEVIL walks about like a roaring lion**, seeking whom (looking for someone) he may devour. **RESIST him**, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

- **James 4:7** “Therefore \_\_\_\_\_ to God. \_\_\_\_\_ the devil and he will \_\_\_\_\_ from you.”
- **II Corinthians 2:10-11** “Now whom you \_\_\_\_\_ anything, I also \_\_\_\_\_. For if indeed I have \_\_\_\_\_ anything, I have \_\_\_\_\_ that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest \_\_\_\_\_ should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his \_\_\_\_\_ (tricks).”
- **Luke 22:31-32** “And the Lord said, ‘Simon, Simon! Indeed, \_\_\_\_\_ has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have \_\_\_\_\_ for you, that your \_\_\_\_\_ should not fail; and when you have \_\_\_\_\_ to Me, strengthen your brethren.’”

**Definition: “SUBMIT to GOD, RESIST the DEVIL”** – This is another warning about PRIDE and the whole area of “attitude sins”. Satan can’t read your mind, but he can observe any actions or words based on your attitude. **God knows your ATTITUDE, and an attitude of HUMILITY is needed, because the most important condition is to HUMBLY SUBMIT yourself to God**, before you can RESIST the DEVIL and have him flee from you. This need for “attitude adjustment” is also compared in Scripture to the athlete who **strips down of ALL excess weight and entanglements** in order to run the race. If you are not prepared for battle by being completely SURRENDERED (submitted) to God in every area of your life, you will be open to attack from Satan (I Peter 5:7-8). **Satan is looking for those whom he MAY devour and damage**, and that means those who are vulnerable to his attacks and temptations, because they have a wrong attitude towards God. Humility is the opposite of pride, so get rid of any kind of PRIDE. You may not think you have a problem with pride. Pride can be thinking you are better than others, but it can also be just **holding onto YOUR OWN will - YOUR right to make YOUR OWN decisions**. You must SUBMIT yourself and SURRENDER yourself entirely to God, becoming a “living sacrifice” (Romans 12:1-2) by sacrificing and **turning your FREE WILL over to God** completely. We are also told to **“Be SOBER, and be VIGILANT” in watching out for the devil’s tricks**. Being sober is to be clear-headed and not intoxicated in any way, and being vigilant means to be on the alert and watchful.

- **II Timothy 2:4** “No one engaged in \_\_\_\_\_ himself with the affairs of this life...”
- **Hebrews 12:1-2** “Let us lay aside every \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ which so easily \_\_\_\_\_ us, and let us \_\_\_\_\_ with endurance the \_\_\_\_\_ that is set before us, looking unto Jesus...”
- **Ephesians 6:10-11** “Finally, my brethren, be \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, and in the power of His \_\_\_\_\_. Put on the whole \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, that you may be able to stand \_\_\_\_\_ the wiles of the \_\_\_\_\_.”