**September 12, 2021**

**“No One Is Exempt”** going deeper in 1 Peter 5:5b-14

**INTRODUCTION**

Peter has called the leaders to be good shepherds (Remember we all have a flock!). He has briefly addressed younger people and called them to show respect for their elders. He now turns and gives direction and encouragement to the entire church family.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 5b All of you, practice humility with each other because, “God is fed up with proud people, but gives grace to those who are humble.” 6 Humble yourselves because God’s powerful hand is on you; He will raise you up at the right time. 7 Humility comes as you throw anything that makes you anxious on him since you can count on his care and concern for you. 8 Practice self-control and stay alert. The Devil, our adversary prowls around like a roaring lion wanting to steal the life you have been given. 9 Resist him, be firm in your faith. Remember you have brothers and sisters across the world experiencing these kinds of hardships too. They stand with you. 10 This hardship will not last forever. The God of all grace has called you and has eternal and gracious plans for you in Jesus Christ and they are truly glorious plans! – plans to make you whole, strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the glory, power, and dominion forever. Amen. 12 I am sending this brief letter to you by Silas, a faithful brother. I have the highest regard for him. I have written with a sense of urgency testifying to the true grace of God which will allow you to stand firm. 13 The church in Babylon, chosen with you, greets you and so does Mark my son. 14 Greet one another with family like love. Peace be with all of you in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Another translation for humble is pliant or moldable. Why do you think God gives grace to those who are pliant? What does this say about the significance of letting God shape you? How pliant are you?

2. How are Christians to deal with stress and anxiety? How is this connected to humility?

3. From these verses how important is humility? What has helped you with living a humble life?

4. Why is humility the response to God’s powerful hand being on you?

5. Why do you think Peter reminds us about the devil and the spiritual battle we are in? How does it picture the devil? Why?

6. How do the promises in verse 10 give you encouragement?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord Jesus for his power and grace at work in your life.

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to empower you to live with his humility today.

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to fill you with the Holy Spirit so you can be prepared for the spiritual battle today.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

We are called and designed to live in a way that reflects the humility and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit how will you practice humility, self-control and stay alert in the spiritual battle you are in this week? Will you remember daily that in Jesus Christ you have been made whole, strong, firm, and steadfast?