



# PETER

*THE DISCIPLE MAKER*

**Daily Devotions and Small Group Discussion Questions | Week Three**

## **This Week's Memory Verse**

..to keep in your pocket, memorize, and hide in your heart:

For to this you have been called,  
because Christ also suffered for you,  
leaving you an example,  
so that you might follow in his steps.

- 1 Peter 2:21 (ESV)

## Week Three, Day Two

### Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

### Devotional Reading

I must confess that too often I find myself sharing my struggles and pain with family or friends before going to the Lord.

I justify this action by thinking that they may understand what I am going through; perhaps they've been there before. Usually, they have some words that can put a little band-aid on my wound and temporarily ease the ache in my heart.

Yet I am reminded time and time again, that God is the ultimate shoulder to cry on. He is the one true Healer.

Brothers and sisters, he knows our pain and suffering most of all! Jesus not only suffered the pain of crucifixion on the cross, but he also suffered every sin and pain and hurt for all humanity.

Think about that for a minute. Imagine if you were to bottle up all of the physical and emotional pain you have felt throughout the course of your life. Jesus bore all of it so that you wouldn't have to bear it eternally. "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed." (1 Peter 2:24, ESV) Our struggles, as painful and as long as they might feel, are temporary and of this earth.

He not only understands what you are going through, he himself bore our pain, sin and heartache. As his healing comes, let us live according to his righteousness.

### Faith In Action

Ask God to show you the sin and heartache that you are trying to cope with on your own. Spend some time honestly writing down what you are struggling with and the burdens of your heart. Acknowledge Christ's sacrifice on the cross for each and every one of these things, and invite him to heal the pain.

### Today's Prayer

God, you are the most beautiful Healer. Thank you for Jesus' work on the cross that has set us free! Help me to continually give to you the pain that I tend to deal with on my own. I don't want to mask it with unhealthy habits or relationships. Help me to believe the truth that by your stripes I am healed.