



Pastor PJ Berner • May 10, 2026



1 Peter 5:12-14 | No Time to Play Church

Scripture Memory

“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.”

– 1 Peter 5:10

Application Questions

Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit compassntx.org to join a small group near you.

1. Read **1 Peter 5:12** and **Philippians 2:12-13**. In what specific ways from Peter’s letter (e.g., enduring opposition, submitting to authorities, resisting Satan) have you tended to think, “I just need to try harder,” rather than, “I need to depend more on the grace of God”? This week, what is one concrete action you will take in that same area to depend on God’s grace (for example, praying a specific promise before the situation, asking a brother or sister to check in, or confessing and asking for help) instead of just “trying harder”?

2. Read **1 Peter 5:13** and **Philippians 1:27**. If our church is one ship in God’s fleet, not a cruise ship off on its own, what is one specific way you personally have slipped into “spectator mode” or quiet competition with other faithful churches (in how you talk, compare, or think about them)? This month, what is one concrete step you can take to “strive side by side for the faith of the gospel”—whether by how you pray for another church, speak about it, or engage in the mission here—so that, if those believers in “Babylon” could see us, they would be encouraged by how we’re doing our part?

3. Read **1 Peter 5:14**, **1:22**, and **4:8**. If “greet one another with the kiss of love” is about visibly expressing sincere, familial affection in culturally appropriate ways, how would you honestly describe your current posture toward our church—more like distant acquaintances, or more like family? What is one practical, relational step (inviting someone into your home, staying after to talk, writing a note, initiating prayer, appropriate physical warmth, etc.) you can take this week to make this church feel more like “walking into your grandparents’ house”?

4. Read **1 Peter 5:14** and **Hebrews 10:24–25**. If you took the “10-foot rule” seriously this Sunday—seeing the lobby as your God-given space to show family affection rather than just pass through—what would need to change about the way you normally arrive, where you sit, and how quickly you leave, and who specifically comes to mind that you could seek out, greet, and maybe pray with before you get to your car?

Recommended Reading

- *The Truth about Grace* - John MacArthur
- *Duties of Christian Fellowship* - John Owen
- *Why We Should Love the Local Church* - Dustin Bengte