

I Peter –  
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I Peter 5:1-14  
February 14th, 2021

### Reflection & Discussion Questions

#### **Whenever Christianity becomes destructive there is bad leadership behind it**

We and our world can be deeply wounded by bad leaders.

\*Where have you seen bad Christian leadership in our world?

#### **Spiritual leaders need to embrace a story**

A story of caring for others in ways that reflect God.

Read and discuss I Peter 5:1-4(ESV)

***5** So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: **2** shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; **3** not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. **4** And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory*

\*What do these verses say about God? About people?

\*What does a good shepherd look like?

\*How has a spiritual leader helped you to discover God?

\*How can you tell good spiritual leaders from bad ones?

#### **Humility is central to the work God wants to do in your life as a believer**

The real work of spiritual warfare is a journey towards humility.

Read and discuss I Peter 5:5-11(ESV)

***5** Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

***6** Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, **7** casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. **8** Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. **9** Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. **10** 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. **11** To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

\*How are attacks of the enemy connected to our humility?

\*What voices shape you from a time spent perspective – including digital ones?

\*Who are the spiritual leaders in your life?

\*How are you seeing that God himself wants to shape you?

**Visual reflection (Visio Divina)\*** [The Shepherd](#) by Jorge Coco Santangelo

**Song for reflection** [Humility](#) by Andrew Blooms

\*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.