**FOCUS** in 2020

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Brian Hummel, *Campus Pastor*

**THRIVE –** *A Study of 1 Peter*

***Founded in the Future – 1 Peter 5:1-14***



Thrive:

* to make progress or grow despite or even   
  because of our circumstances
* to grow vigorously
* to gain wealth
* prosper; flourish

Do you want a trouble free, problem free, picture perfect life?

Change the way you think – that is not going to happen!

Submit to the reality that you are going to suffer all your life.

*In this you rejoice, though now for* ***a little while****, if necessary, you have been* ***grieved by various trials****….*

1 Peter 1:6

*And after you have* ***suffered a little while….***

1 Peter 5:10

Firm faith, founded in the future, flourishes you … forever.

*So I exhort the elders among you…*

1 Peter 5:1

*And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will   
receive the unfading crown of glory.*

1 Peter 5:4

***Humble*** *yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of  
 God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,****casting  
 all your anxieties on him****, because he cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:6-7

Submitting fully to God requires dropping every worry on Him.

Casting is not laying down; it is more action biased. It is throwing   
them or dropping them.

God’s desire is to carry your burdens.

Warning: “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

1 Peter 5:5

The response is to fling all of your cares, concerns, anxieties on a   
God who loves you.

*be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like* ***a roaring lion****, seeking someone to devour.*

1 Peter 5:8

The Enemy is a loud, blusterous distraction.

The word “cares” in verse 7 comes from the Greek work Mermina (Merimnao Ministry), which means worry or anxiety as when one   
does not know to do this or that, ‘distraction.’  
  
The enemy seeks to distract you. He is not the source of every   
care or worry, but he amplifies everything that distracts you.

*Resist him,****firm in your faith****, knowing that the same kinds   
of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

1 Peter 5:9

The key to resistance is to be firm in your faith – to focus on your promised future.

Know this - You are not alone.

Warning: You are being targeted!

Devour – completely gobble up, destroy

The enemy is not just an enemy of God’s; he is your enemy. He   
does not just hate God; he hates you. The enemy has a violent   
and insatiable murderous thirst for your destruction.

The response is to be sober-minded, watchful for the enemy and his lies and attacks … but to remain focused on the future.

*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****. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

1 Peter 5:10-11

Focus on the future; a rescue is coming.

**T**ake heart – life is short.

*What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.*

James 4:14

**R**elinquish your concerns and control.

***casting all your anxieties on him****, because he cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:-7

**Y**earn for the future.

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

**T.R.Y.**

Friends, you are going to suffer in this lifetime. It is promised. We are   
not called to look for relief from our suffering in this life, but rather   
how we can thrive through our suffering. Our rescuer is coming;   
our future is certain.

Firm faith, founded in the future, flourishes you … forever.