Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1 Peter 5:1-7

Let Us Glorify God by Humbly Serving Others

Digging In

1. **Read 1 Peter 5:1-4**
   a. How does the apostle Peter portray himself to the churches in Asia Minor?
   b. According to the apostle Peter, what does it mean for an elder to shepherd the flock?
   c. What examples would these churches follow as a paradigm of good eldership?
   d. According to the apostle Peter what are the characteristics of a good elder?
   e. What is the crown of glory?
   f. Summarize vv.1-4 in your own words.

2. **Read 1 Peter 5:5**
   a. Why is it important that the apostle Peter speaks to younger men here?
   b. What is the importance of the apostle Peter exhorting everyone to "clothe yourselves with humility toward one another" after he informs younger men to be subject to elders?
   c. Summarize v.5 in your own words.

3. **Read 1 Peter 5:6-7**
   a. What does it mean that "God will exalt you in due time, if you humble yourselves under his mighty hand…"? (OT:1 Samuel 2:7 NT: Mt. 23:12; Lk. 1:52; 14:11; 18:14[1])

      Read this for assistance,"…Since God resists the proud and pours his grace upon the humble, "therefore" believers should humble themselves. By humbling themselves they will experience God's grace, for God bestows his favor on those who acknowledge their need of him. The humbling enjoined probably means that they are to accept the suffering God has ordained as his will instead of resisting and chafing against his will while suffering…"[2]

   b. How does v.7 give clarity to v.6 on the subject of being humble?

      Hint: read vv. 6-7 in different translations to get a better understanding.

   c. What is a person doing when they cast their cares on God?

      The answer is found in v.6.

   d. Summarize vv.6-7 in your own words.

4. Getting Personal

   a. *What does humility look like to you? Give examples.*
   b. *Share a time when someone displayed humility before you. How did that make you feel?*
   c. *How are you practicing humility in your life?*
   d. *How are you humbly serving others in the church?*

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[1] J. N. D. Kelly, *The Epistles of Peter and of Jude*, Black's New Testament Commentary (London: Continuum, 1969), 208.
[2] Thomas R. Schreiner, *1, 2 Peter, Jude*, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 239.