

WEEK 5: 1 PETER

DAY 1: HUSBANDS AND WIVES MUST LIVE WELL TOGETHER

1 Peter 3:1-22

1. Last week we learned that the home of Christians is in heaven. But we also learned how Christians should live in this world.

Write two ways Peter says Christians should live as strangers in this world.

(1) _____

(2) _____

2. We should obey the government. We should follow the example of Jesus.

Today we want to learn how we can have good Christian marriages. We will learn how a husband should treat his wife and how a wife should treat her husband. This is what we will learn:

- (1) The wife can bring her husband to receive Jesus by obeying.
- (2) The husband must respect his wife so that his prayers will be answered.

Take your Bible now and read 1 Peter 3:1-7.

3. These verses tell us some things which can help us in our homes. Sometimes a wife becomes a Christian but the husband does not. When this happens, there can be many problems. The verses for today tell us how a Christian wife can bring her husband to the Lord. Let us look at the verse which talks about this. It says that a Christian wife can bring her husband to the Lord by obeying him.

1 Peter 3:1:

Likewise you wives, be submissive (or obedient) to your husbands, so that some, though they do not obey the word, may be won without a word by the behaviour of their wives.

Read this verse again. Does it say that husbands are won when the wives speak many words?

4. No. It says that the husband is brought to the Lord without a word. This means that the wife does not have to keep speaking many words to her husband about receiving Christ.

What must a wife do to her husband to bring him to receive Christ? _____

5. It says that she must obey him. She must do what he says. This does not mean that she should do sinful things. But she should help him. She should work for him in the home. She should be careful to care for the children. When the wife lives well, this shows the husband what kind of person she is.

What can a wife bring her husband to do if she obeys him? _____

6. She can bring him to receive Christ. She can bring him to Jesus.
Dulo had been the wife of Olono for 10 years. Then Dulo received Christ. Her husband was very angry when Dulo did this. But Dulo did not talk back to him. She cared for Olono better than she had before. She obeyed him. She knew that God made man the head of the wife. After Dulo suffered and obeyed for five years Olono became a Christian.

Who can win husbands to the Lord by obeying them? _____

7. This is something that a wife can do. Peter is not talking about the work of a shepherd or a preacher in these verses. He is talking about Christian women in their homes.

When Maria received Christ, she gave her husband a hard time. She shouted at him. She told him he would go to hell for his sins. She said she could not live in one room with him. Maria did wrong. Shouting at a husband does not win him to the Lord.

What must a wife do to bring her husband to receive Christ? _____

8. These verses teach us that a wife must obey her husband. She should not do sinful things. But she should care for her husband. She should care well for her home and her children. A wife should be kind and loving.

1 Peter 3:4:

... let it be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable jewel of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.

What does Peter say a wife can do if she obeys her unsaved husband? _____

9. If she does this, she can bring her husband to receive Christ. But this does not mean that wives should be afraid to speak. Wives must not be afraid to tell their husbands how to be saved.

Prisca was a Christian wife. Her husband had not received Christ. But she prayed for him. And she obeyed him. She did not speak much to him. She did not keep telling him that he was a sinner and that he was going to hell. At first her husband never talked about Christ. But he saw that Prisca had become a very good wife. After two years he asked her how to become a Christian. Prisca was able to tell him.

1 Peter 3:14-15:

But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defence (or explain) to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence.

How can a wife bring her unsaved husband to receive Christ? _____

10. A wife can do this by obeying him. She must obey her husband. She must do good work in the home.

But Peter also tells us how husbands should treat their wives. Husbands must treat their wives kindly. They must respect them.

1 Peter 3:7:

Likewise you husbands, live considerately (or kindly) with your wives, bestowing honour on the woman as the weaker sex, since you are joint heirs of the grace of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered.

From this verse, what happens to a husband's prayers if he does not respect his wife?

11. This verse says that his prayers will be hindered. This means that God will not hear his prayers.

If a husband does not want his prayers to be hindered, what must he do to his wife?

12. He must respect her. To respect means to be kind and loving. A husband who respects his wife thinks about her needs. He thinks about her feelings.

Some men think that men are better than women. They treat women as if they are not important. But this is not how God looks at women. God

treats men and women the same. In our verses, Peter says that men and women are "joint heirs". This means that men and women are equal in getting blessings from God. The Apostle Paul also wrote about this.

Galatians 3:28:

... there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ

What is hindered when a man does not respect his wife? _____

13. Peter says that a man's prayers are hindered. God cannot answer his prayers. A husband must be careful about the needs of his wife. He must care well for her. Some men think that they can live in any way they like at home and that God will answer their prayers in church. But this is not so.

What must a husband do to his wife if he wants his prayers to be answered?

14. He must respect her. A husband must think of the needs of his wife. He must give her money. He must listen when she talks. He must not speak badly to her. He must not talk about her in a bad way to other people.

1 Peter 3:16 and 3:12:

Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are abused, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their prayer.

What happens to a man's prayers when he does not respect his wife?

15. His prayers are hindered. God will not answer his prayers.

John Oketch received Christ. Then he became a leader in a church. But his wife continued in sin. She spoke evil to her husband. One day she even hit him in the face because he became a Christian. It was a great shame for this to happen to Oketch. But Oketch did not send his wife back to her father. He treated her well. He prayed for her. His prayer was not hindered. His wife repented and received Christ. She was now ashamed that she had hit her husband.

What must a man do to his wife so that his prayers are not hindered?

16. A husband must respect his wife. When he does this, his prayers will

not be hindered. God will answer his prayers.

Think about the people near you. Do you know a family where the husband is a Christian but the wife is not? Or where the wife is a Christian but the husband is not?

If you said yes, go to the Christian person before you come to the next class. Encourage that Christian. Tell him or her what you have learned in this lesson.

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17. We will talk about what happened when you come to class.

How can a wife bring her unsaved husband to receive Christ? _____

What must a husband do to his wife so that his prayers are not hindered?

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WEEK 5: 1 PETER

DAY 2: WE MUST LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

1 Peter 4:1-11

1. Yesterday we learned about husbands and wives.

How can a wife bring her unsaved husband to receive Christ? _____

What must a husband do to his wife so that his prayers are not hindered?

2. Today we will learn how all Christians should treat one another. Peter said that the end of the world is near. He said that it is very important how we treat one another. We will learn two things which we must do.

- (1) We should have unfailing love because love covers many sins.
- (2) We should use God's gifts to serve one another.

Take your Bible now and read 1 Peter 4:1-11.

3. We know that love is very important for Christians. In many places in the Bible we read that we should love one another. Jesus taught this. The apostles taught this. Peter taught that love is important too.

1 Peter 4:8:

Above all hold unfailing your love for one another, since love covers a multitude of (or many) sins.

From this verse, what does love cover? _____

4. It covers many sins. What does this mean? It means many things. First, it means that God loves us. And his love for us covers our many sins.

It also teaches us something else. When we have love for others, we do not see their sins. We are loving and kind. The love we have for people covers their mistakes so we do not see them.

What covers many sins? _____

5. Love does this. It is important that we have love for one another. Peter said, "Above all . . ." This means that love is more important than anything else.

We should have unfailing love. Unfailing love is love that is strong. It

can not be defeated. It is love that keeps going on and does not stop when hard things come. This is the kind of love God has for us.

What does love cover? _____

6. Love covers many sins. When we love others, we are not looking for their mistakes and wrongs. Our love covers these things so we do not see them. Unfailing love is so strong that it will forgive the mistakes of others. It will forget their mistakes.

Who should have unfailing love to cover many sins? _____

7. Christians should be like this. Love is the most important thing for Christians to have. Jesus said that this is the way sinners would know that we belong to God.

1 Peter 3:8:

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind.

From today's lesson, why should Christians have unfailing love for one another?

8. If Christians are like this, they will cover many sins. When we are like this, we forgive others. When we are like this, God forgives us.

What covers many sins? _____

9. Unfailing love does this. Now we want to look at another verse in 1 Peter 4. We will see that we must use the gifts that God has given us to serve others.

1 Peter 4:10:

As each has received a gift, employ (or use) it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

Why does Peter say Christians should have unfailing love for one another?

10. Christians should have unfailing love for one another because love covers many sins.

Ngare can make chairs. We can say he has the gift of being a carpenter.

He uses his gift to make chairs for the church. Joseph does not know how to make chairs. But Joseph has the gift of preaching. He preaches in the church. Esther does not know how to make chairs or how to preach. But she can cook. She uses her gift in cooking for others.

Who gives us these gifts? _____

11. God gives us these gifts. It is God who gives us the power to work with our hands, or to speak, or to lead others. God gives us these gifts because of his grace. Peter says in these verses that the grace of God is of different kinds. This means that God shows his grace to people in different ways. God gives each of us some gifts. But the gifts are not all the same.

Whom should we serve with the gifts that God gives us? _____

12. We should serve one another. God does not want us to be selfish. He does not want us to keep these things for ourselves. He wants us to share. He wants us to help others.

What has God given us so we can serve one another? _____

13. He has given us gifts. He has given us the power to do things. God has given each Christian a gift so that he can do something well. Some people have the gift of working with their hands. Others have the gift of speaking well in front of people. There are many kinds of gifts.

Take some time to think about yourself. What gift has God given you? _____

14. Perhaps you had not thought of this before. But God has given you a gift. We will talk about this in class.

Why has God given you this gift? _____

15. God has given you this gift so that you can serve others.

Mase was good at doing sums in school. When he grew older, people knew that he was honest. They asked him to look after the money in the church. He knew how to keep good records of the money. He knew how to make good reports.

What gift do you think God gave Masese so that he could serve others?

16. God gave him the gift of being able to work with numbers. He was able to care well for the church money. God gives all people gifts. He has given you gifts. Peter says that we are "stewards" of these gifts. This means that we must look after these gifts well. We must use them well. Some day God will ask us to tell him how we have used his gifts.

What should we do with God's gifts? _____

17. We should use God's gifts to serve one another. We should not use them just for ourselves. We should share with others what God has given us.

Think about the gifts that God has given you. How are you using the gifts he has given you?

18. We will talk about your answer in class.

Why should Christians have unfailing love for one another? _____

What should we do with the gifts which God has given to us? _____

WEEK 5: 1 PETER

DAY 3: CHRISTIANS SUFFER FOR THEIR FAITH IN JESUS

1 Peter 4:12-19

1. Yesterday we studied the first 11 verses of 1 Peter 4.

Why should Christians have unfailing love for one another? _____

What should we do with the gifts which God has given to us? _____

2. We should love one another because love covers many sins. And we should serve one another with the gifts which God has given us.

Today we want to learn more about why Christians suffer. When people believe in Jesus, they sometimes meet suffering. Christians should not be surprised when this happens. In fact, they should rejoice when it happens.

Take your Bible now and read 1 Peter 4:12-19.

3. There are many kinds of suffering in the life of a Christian. He may suffer from sickness in his body. He may suffer from hard times, as we have seen in the book of James' But today we want to learn about another kind of suffering. It is suffering that comes to Christians just because they believe in Jesus.

There are two reasons why the General Epistles were written. Write the first reason.

(1) _____

(2) To correct false teaching.

4. The first reason was to encourage the Christians. Many Christians were suffering. They were going through hard trials. These seven letters were written to make their faith strong. They were written to encourage the Christians and help them keep on serving God.

1 Peter 4:12:

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal (or trial, or suffering) which comes upon you to prove (or test) you, as though something strange were happening to you.

What should Christians not be surprised about? _____

5. We should not be surprised when suffering and trials come to us. Many people think that when they become Christians, they will not have any more troubles. But Peter says we should expect to have suffering. We should not be surprised when trials come to us.

1 Peter 4:13:

But rejoice in so far as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

What does this verse tell us to do when suffering comes to us? _____

As we learned, how did James say we should feel when we meet trials?

6. Peter says that we should rejoice. James said that we should be happy when we meet trials. This is not easy to do. But this is what God wants us to do. Let us look at the verse again.

1 Peter 4:13:

But rejoice in so far as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

When Christians suffer for their faith, whose sufferings do they share?

7. They share the sufferings of Christ. Jesus suffered much pain and sorrow for us. People laughed at him. People spoke evil of him. They spit on him. They put a crown of thorns on his head. They put a spear in his side. They nailed him to a cross. Jesus suffered on the cross for our sins. Peter wrote in his letter that when we suffer for our faith, we are sharing the sufferings of Christ.

From 1 Peter 4, what is one thing that Christians should not be surprised about?

8. Christians should not be surprised when they suffer. But why do Christians suffer? We want to look today at one of the reasons. The Christians Peter was writing to were not suffering because they had done wrong. These people suffered for the name of Christ. They suffered because they believed Jesus. They suffered for their faith.

1 Peter 4:14:

If you are reproached (or suffer) for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

From this verse, what happens when we suffer for our faith in Christ?

9. This verse says that we are blessed. This is hard to understand. When we have troubles, it is hard for us to remember that we are blessed. But Peter says we are blessed.

Peter says that the people he wrote to suffered for the name of Christ. This means that they suffered because they believed Jesus. There were people who hated the Christians. They fought against the Christians. They made life hard for the Christians. These Christians suffered for their faith in Jesus.

1 Peter 4:16:

Yet if one suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but under that name let him glorify God.

From 1 Peter 4, what is one thing that Christians should not be surprised about?

10. Christians should not be surprised when they suffer. The Christians Peter was writing to had many sufferings.

1 Peter 1:6:

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials.

1 Peter 3:14, 17:

But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled. . . . For it is better to suffer for doing right, if that should be God's will, than for doing wrong.

What is one thing we are learning today for which Christians suffer?

11. This happens to some Christians just because of their faith in Jesus. Penina was a good Christian. She cared for her family well. But her husband was not a believer. Penina went to church faithfully. One day her husband came and pulled her out of the meeting. He tore her clothes. He beat her until they reached their home three miles away.

What happened to Penina because of her faith in Jesus? _____

12. She had to suffer. She had many hard things happen to her. Her husband was very hard to her.

Adel went to a secondary school in Uganda. He was a Christian and he invited his friends to church. He told his friends of his faith in Jesus. But they only laughed at him. They made life hard for him. He suffered such trouble. He suffered much evil speaking.

From this lesson, what is one thing for which Christians sometimes suffer?

13. They suffer for their faith in Jesus. In some countries, it is very hard for people to gather for church. This is true even in Africa. I know some Christians who were put in prison while we were writing this book. They were put in prison because they gathered to worship in church. They had not done anything wrong. The only thing they had done was to meet for singing, prayer, and Bible study. But they had to suffer for their faith in Jesus.

1 Peter 4:19:

Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will do right and entrust their souls to a faithful Creator.

Do you think it is ever God's will for Christians to suffer for their faith in Jesus?

14. If you said No, you had better read this lesson again. Peter says it is sometimes the plan of God for us to have these things in our lives. God lets these things come to us for a reason. Peter wrote that these things test us. James wrote that the testing of our faith with trials makes us strong.

Form 1 Peter 4, what is one thing for which Christians suffer? _____

15. They suffer for their faith in Jesus. But let us see what happened to the people from Rungu Church. These Christians visited a government hospital in Kenya. They preached and sang and beat their drums. They made much noise. The police and doctors told them to be quiet. They did not obey but kept making much noise. Then the police arrested them. But these Christians were proud of this. They said that they were suffering because of their faith in Jesus.

Why do you think the people from Rungu church were suffering? _____

16. They were suffering because they did wrong. They made noise and broke the law. It is not easy to go through real suffering. It is hard when trials come to us for our faith. But let us see what God has promised to us.

1 Peter 5:9-10:

Resist him (Satan), firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world. 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, establish, and strengthen you.

After we have suffered a little while, what will God do for us? _____

17. These verses say that after a little while, God will make us strong. This is God's promise for you.

What should Christians not be surprised about? _____

From 1 Peter 4, what is one thing for which Christians sometimes suffer? _____

WEEK 5: 1 PETER

DAY 4: SHEPHERDS MUST CARE FOR THE FLOCK OF GOD

1 Peter 5:1-6

1. Yesterday we learned about the people to whom Peter wrote. He wrote to encourage them.

What did Peter say Christians should not be surprised about? _____

What is one thing for which Christians sometimes suffer? _____

2. Christians should not be surprised when they suffer. Christians sometimes suffer for their faith in Jesus. But many people do not understand this. They think they are suffering because the spirits are troubling them. Or they think they are suffering because they have sinned. It is important that the shepherds of the church teach their people about these things. It is important that the shepherds do their work well.

Today we want to learn two things about the flock of God.

(1) The shepherd must care for the flock of God.

(2) Young people in the flock of God must be under the shepherds.

Now take your Bible and read 1 Peter 5:1-7.

3. A preacher must care for the flock of God. He is a shepherd. He must feed the flock with the word of God. He must feed them from the Bible so they become strong. To care for the flock of God is very important work.

1 Peter 5:2:

Tend the flock of God that is your charge, not by constraint (or by force) but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock.

Who do you think are the flock of God? _____

4. You could answer in different ways. The flock of God are the Christians or the church. The believers are the flock of God. The Bible says that Christians are like sheep. They need someone to care for them.

Who should care for the flock of God? _____

5. This is the work of the shepherd. The shepherd must care for the people with love. He must do it willingly. He must not do it to get much money. The faithful shepherd does his work to give help to the people. He does not do it to receive things from the people. The shepherd should remember that the flock does not belong to him.

Whose flock does the shepherd care for? _____

6. It is God's flock. The shepherd does God's work. Jesus is the great shepherd. We are only shepherds under Jesus. He has placed the people in our care. He has given shepherds the work to do. Shepherds must be careful to do this work well.

Who is it that the shepherds must care for? _____

7. They must care for the flock of God. The people of God are like sheep. They need someone to care for them. They need someone to feed them. They need someone to teach them. They need someone to keep them away from danger.

Who must care for the flock of God? _____

8. This is the work of the shepherds. Shepherd Okello was called to Opio's house one day. Opio had cut his neighbour's leg by mistake when he was cutting wood. Everyone was angry with Opio. They forgot the man with the bleeding leg. Opio and his neighbour were members of Shepherd Okello's church. He cared for them. He took off his good shirt. He tore it into pieces and wrapped the bleeding leg. He spoke quietly to Opio.

Who must the shepherd care for? _____

9. He must care for the flock of God. He must care for all their needs. He must give himself to serve them well.

He must be careful to serve all the people in the flock. He must serve people of his own tribe and from other tribes. He must serve the men and the women. He must serve those who have learned and those who have not been to school. He must serve both the old people and the young people.

1 Peter 5:5:

Likewise you that are younger be subject to the elders (or shepherds).

From this verse, who should be under the shepherds? _____

10. This verse teaches that the young people in the flock of God should be under the shepherds. In the Bible, the shepherds are sometimes called elders. Young people should obey the shepherd and his helpers. They should follow their teaching. They should learn from their lives.

Who must the shepherd care for? _____

Do you have a problem near you between young people and old people?

11. The shepherd should care for the flock of God. He should care for old people and young people. But sometimes there is trouble between old and young people. Sometimes young people think old men are slow and do not work hard.

From 1 Peter 5, who should young people be under? _____

12. They must be under the shepherds. They must listen to the shepherds. They must follow the teaching of the shepherds. But the shepherds must be careful to care for the young people. Young people are part of the flock of God.

Benon Omtati is an old pastor in Uganda. He went to school for only two years. But he has much wisdom. The young people in his church like him. He is like a father to them. They obey and respect him because he does well the work of caring for the flock.

Who must be under the shepherds? _____

13. Peter teaches us that young people must be under the shepherds. They must obey what the shepherds say. Sometimes there is trouble between old men and young people because people are proud. Old men are sometimes very proud of their age. Young people are sometimes very proud of their learning.

1 Peter 5:5:

... Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

What must both shepherds and young people have in order to work well together?

14. They must have humility. Young people need old people. Old people need young people. There is much work to do in the church. God can use everyone to do his work.

Who must the shepherd care for? _____

Who does Peter say must be under the shepherds? _____

15. The young people must be under the shepherds. They should obey the shepherds. They should respect them. They should follow their advice. But the shepherds must not make the lives of the young people hard. They must try to understand the young people. They must be kind to them. They must help them in the church.

Do the young people in your church listen to your shepherd? _____

If they do not, what do you think the people in your church should do? _____

16. We will talk about your answer in class.

Who must the shepherds care for? _____

Who does Peter say must be under the shepherds? _____

WEEK 5: 1 PETER

DAY 5: WE MUST REFUSE THE DEVIL IN FAITH

1 Peter 5:7-14

1. Today is the last day we will study 1 Peter together. Next week we will study the second letter which Peter wrote. We have prayed that God would help you understand these verses and these lessons.

Yesterday we learned about some of the work of the shepherd.

Who must the shepherds care for? _____

Who does Peter say must be under the shepherds? _____

2. The shepherds must care for the flock of God. The young people in the flock must be under the shepherds.

Today we will learn what Peter told the Christians to do when they have troubles.

(1) Christians should give their troubles to God.

(2) We must refuse our enemy, the devil, with faith.

Take your Bible now and read 1 Peter 5:7-14.

3. The people to whom Peter wrote had many troubles. They had many trials. They suffered very much. Let us see what Peter told these Christians to do.

1 Peter 5:7:

Cast (or throw) all your anxieties (or troubles) on him, for he cares about you.

Who cares about us when we have troubles? _____

4. God cares about us. He knows our lives. He knows when we are suffering. He knows when we meet trials. He knows when we have troubles. He loves us and will look after us.

What does Peter tell us we should do with our troubles? _____

5. He says we should give them to God. We should throw them on God. God cares about our troubles. He will help us. He will come and meet our needs. We should not hide our feelings. We should tell God about them. We can do this when we pray. We can put our trust in God.

What does Peter say we should give to God? _____

6. He says we should give him all our troubles. We meet many hard things in our lives. But we should not keep these to ourselves. We should not keep thinking about them. There is someone who wants to help us with our problems. He has power. He is loving and he has promised to care for us.

To whom should we give our troubles? _____

7. We should give them to God. He cares for us. He has promised to help us when we have troubles.

But the devil tries to harm people. Peter says that the devil is like a lion. The devil tries to get people to fall. We must refuse the devil. We must fight against him. We must do this in faith.

1 Peter 5:8:

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking some one to devour.

What should Christians do with their troubles? _____

8. We should give our troubles to God. We should put our trust in God. It is wonderful to know that God cares for us when we have trials and suffering. But the devil sometimes comes like a lion. He tries to get people to fall.

1 Peter 5:9:

Resist (or refuse) him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world.

What must we do to our enemy, the devil? _____

9. We must refuse him. We must fight against him. We must do this in faith. We must have strong faith in God. When our faith in God is strong, we will be able to defeat our enemy. We must have faith in God's promises.

Ephesians 6:16:

Above all taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench (or put out) all the flaming darts of the evil one.

Who comes to fight us like a roaring lion? _____

With what can we refuse him? _____

10. The devil comes to us like a roaring lion. He is the evil one. He wants to make us fall. But we must refuse him with faith. We must fight against him.

We read about Joseph in the Old Testament. His master's wife spoke sweetly to him every day. She wanted Joseph to sleep with her. She was very beautiful and Joseph was young. Joseph tried not to stay alone with her. He was afraid he might become weak. But one day they were alone. Joseph refused her by running away.

If we want to refuse the devil, in whom must we have strong faith? _____

11. We must have strong faith in God. Joseph had strong faith. This helped him to have victory. His faith in God helped him not to sin. His faith in God helped him in his troubles. Praise God! Through faith we too can have the victory.

What should Christians do with their troubles? _____

If we have strong faith in God, whom can we refuse? _____

12. We should give our troubles to God. If we have faith in God, we will be able to refuse the devil. But let us see what happened to Okunyu. Okunyu was a new Christian. Before he received Christ, he had been a drunkard. One night he passed a beer party on the way to his home. He thought it would be nice to try a little beer again. The devil said to him, "If God had not wanted you to drink, you would not have passed here. And these people would not have invited you in. Drink a little and then go home."

Okunyu listened to the devil. He fell into sin. He blamed God for it, but it was not God's fault.

What did Okunyu not do when the devil tempted him? _____

13. Okunyu did not refuse the devil. He did not try to fight him. He did not try to get away from the devil. He just listened. He did what the devil said. And then he tried to blame God. Okunyu should have refused the devil.

1 Peter 5:9:

Resist him, firm in your faith.

What must we have in order to refuse the devil? _____

14. We must have faith. We must have strong faith. We must believe God's promises. We must believe him when he says that he will help us overcome temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13:

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape.

If we have faith in God, what can we do to the devil? _____

15. We can refuse the devil. Faith in God will protect us in temptation. As our faith grows stronger we are able to fight better. We get strong faith when we read the Bible and pray.

What must we do to our enemy, the devil? _____

With what can we do this? _____

16. We must refuse the devil. We must fight against him. We can refuse him with faith. We can fight best when our faith in God is strong. When we refuse the devil, he will leave us. We learned this in the letter of James.

James 4:7:

Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

This is a promise from God. He has promised to help you with all your troubles and temptations. Stop now and ask God to give you more faith.

Ask him to help you read the Bible and pray more so your faith will be strong.

17. What should Christians do with their troubles? _____

What must we do to our enemy, the devil? _____

With what can we do this? _____