## **DISCUSS**

# Read 1 Peter 5:1-4

- Peter says elders should shepherd "not under compulsion, but willingly." How is serving because you want to different from serving because you have to? How can you tell the difference in your own heart?
- Elders are to lead "not domineering...but as examples." Think of leaders you've respected. What made their example compelling? How can we lead well even without a formal role?
- Peter reminds elders of the "unfading crown of glory" when the Chief Shepherd appears. How does an eternal perspective shape the way we serve others today?

# Read 1 Peter 5: 5-11

- Peter links humility with casting our cares on God. How are pride and anxiety connected in your life?
- How have you seen the enemy try to "devour" faith recently? How can staying alert help you face temptation or suffering?
- Peter calls us to humble ourselves, resist the devil, and trust God's restoration. Compare this with <u>James 4:6–10</u> what stands out about humility and drawing near to God?

# Read 1 Peter 5: 12-14

- Peter says he wrote to "encourage" and to point to "the true grace of God." When have other believers encouraged you in a tough season? How can we be more purposeful in encouraging each other?
- The passage ends with "Peace to all of you who are in Christ." Why do you think peace is the perfect closing word? Where in your life do you most need Christ's peace right now?

## **TAKE ACTION**

Even in seasons of pressure, Peter reminds us to humble ourselves under God's mighty hand, stay alert against the enemy, and trust that God will strengthen and restore us.

Craft a personal and practical "I will" statement (ex: I will start each morning by surrendering my worries in prayer, asking God to help me walk humbly today):

- Keep it specific, realistic, and doable this week.
- Share your "I will" statement with the group for encouragement and accountability.