


ASSEMBLY GUIDE

BOOKS of 1 & 2 PETER

DATE: March 8, 2020

PREPARATION: <i>(What I need to do and items to gather before I begin to teach.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • Whiteboard or large piece of poster/construction paper • Markers
LITURGICAL CALENDAR:	Sunday of Prodigal Son
LESSON TITLE:	Books of 1 & 2 Peter + Sunday of Prodigal Son
OPENING:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recite/Sing: Hayr Mer or Recite: Lord's Prayer (in English) • Hang the "1 & 2 Peter" wall cards.
SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:	<p>1 Peter: 1-3 <i>"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead," (A Living Hope)</i></p> <p>2 Peter 1:5-7 <i>"For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love." (Leading a Godly life)</i></p>
EMAPHASIS or THEME:	Have Hope When You May Be Suffering
A FEW FACTS:	<p>WRITER: Peter</p> <p>WHY IS IT IMPORTANT: Hard times will come. God doesn't always take the trouble away, but He does stay with the believer through the hard times. And in the process, God brings the believer closer to Him and more like Him</p>
SUMMARY:	<p>BEFORE LESSON: On your board, draw a "spider diagram" as follows:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>REVIEW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel of Matthew - written by Matthew • Gospel of Mark - written by Mark • Gospel of Luke - written by Luke • Gospel of John - written by John • Book of Acts - written by Luke • Book of Romans - written by apostle Paul • Books of 1 & 2 Corinthians - both written by apostle Paul • Book of Galatians - written by Paul • Book of Ephesians - written by Paul • Book of Philippians – written by Paul • Book of Colossians – written by Paul • Book of Thessalonians 1 & 2 – written by Paul • Books of Timothy 1 & 2 – written by Paul • Book of Titus – written by Paul • Book of Philemon – written by Paul • Book of Hebrews – author unknown • Book of James – written by James

SAY: The next 2 books of the New Testament are called 1 Peter and 2 Peter, both written by one of Jesus' disciples named Peter. Peter wrote his 2 letters to the believers living in Asia Minor probably soon after apostle Paul had died.

(Addressing your Spider Diagram that you drew on your board, BRAINSTROM with students what they can tell you about "ARMENIANS." Write students responses on the lines. Take maybe 4-5 responses. Hopefully, 1 student will volunteer an answer that is related to how Armenians were the 1st Christians and/or were persecuted for their Christian beliefs. If not, add this on one of the lines))

SAY: It is true, Armenians were the first Christian nations, back in 301 AD.

ASK: Was it always easy for the Armenians to be Christians? What kinds of problems did they have? *(Pause for responses.)*

SAY: We know from our history that Armenians suffered terribly for being Christians and it ultimately led to the horrific massacre of 1.5 million Armenians in the 1915 Genocide. This is just what Peter was writing about in his 1st book. Peter wrote that Christians were suffering for their faith everywhere. Peter told them not to be surprised by this, after all, Jesus had suffered too. Peter teaches that especially during times of trouble, we must always have HOPE. Through HOPE, God would use any suffering to make His people strong. Peter was right! And Armenians are the perfect example. Through all the difficulties that Armenians suffered for Christianity, they are the strongest Christians you will find. Peter knew this would be true.

Paul wrote a 2nd letter a few years later to warn believers about false teachers. He wanted them to be ready to stand up against those who were teaching lies.

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

SAY: Today is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. It is one of the most beloved stories ever told, and like the book of Peter, it also teaches us about HOPE. The Prodigal Son is a story about a father and his 2 sons. When 1 son leaves his father's home with his inheritance, the father is heartbroken. But he never gives up HOPE that his son will one day return, which he does!

The Prodigal Son is a story that declares Jesus' concern for the lost and God's love for any sinner who asks for forgiveness. When we repent and return to our Father's love and grace, He will receive us and forgive us.

OPTIONAL: SHOW this short 4 minute video about the Prodigal Son.
<https://ministry-to-children.com/prodigal-son-for-kids/>

ASK: Who has been following their "**LENTEN CALENDAR?**" *(Pause for input, discuss, and allow students to share their experiences as appropriate.)*

SING A SHARAGAN:

SELECT a Sharagan to sing this week/month from the AACDWD.ORG website.

CLOSING:

(Prayer, last song, . . .)

Sing/Recite: Hayr Mer

Recite: Lord's Prayer (in English)