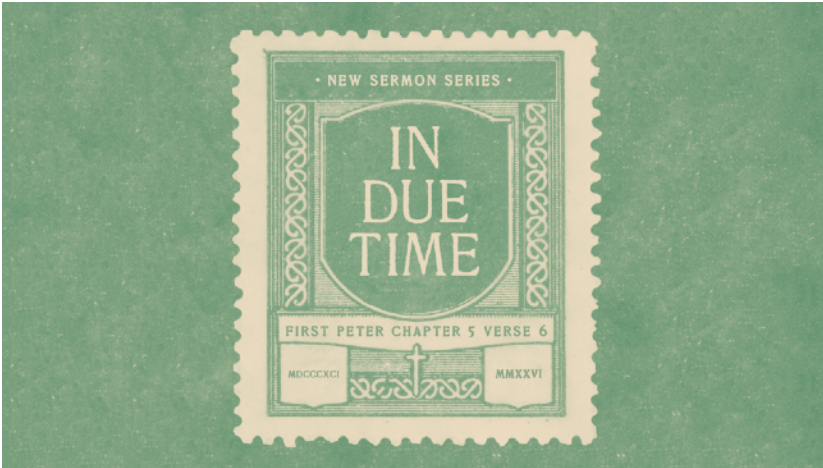


LOOP Study Guide

In Due Time: Week 1

Key Scripture:

1 Peter 5:6 “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”



Leader Tip: You don't need to rush this guide. Let the Spirit lead. If conversation is rich, lean into it.

OPENING (5–10 MINUTES)

Icebreaker Question

- What's something in life you hate waiting for?
 - (Examples: traffic, answers to texts, Amazon packages, job decisions, healing, direction)

Transition: *Our culture hates waiting—but Scripture tells us that God does some of His deepest work while we wait.*

MESSAGE OVERVIEW (LEADER SUMMARY)

We live in a world obsessed with speed, but **God is never rushed and never late**. Waiting seasons can feel like pressure, silence, or even rejection—but Scripture shows us that:

- Delay is not denial
- Waiting is not wasted
- Pressure is often preparation

Peter writes to believers under persecution and pressure, and instead of telling them to fight harder, he tells them to **go lower**.

“Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.” (1 Peter 5:6)

This message teaches us to trust **God's timing**, not just His power.

DISCUSSION 1: PRESSURE & WAITING

Read: 1 Peter 1:6–7; 1 Peter 4:12–16

Discussion Questions

1. When you're under pressure or waiting on God, what thoughts tend to surface first?
2. Have you ever questioned God's timing—or wondered if He heard you? What did that season feel like?
3. Why do you think waiting exposes what our faith is really anchored to?

Leader Insight: Pressure often reveals whether we trust God's *process* or just want His *outcome*.

DISCUSSION 2: TWO KINDS OF FAITH

Faith #1 – Believing God will do what you asked

Scriptures: Matthew 7:7–11; James 4:2; Mark 11:24

Faith #2 – Trusting God's promises will be fulfilled

Scriptures: Romans 8:28; Numbers 23:19; Hebrews 6:13–18; 2 Corinthians 1:20

Key Statement:

Believing God will do what you asked is **faith in a moment**.

Trusting His promises is **faith in a process**.

Discussion Questions

1. Which kind of faith do you naturally lean toward—asking faith or promise faith?
2. Why is it sometimes easier to trust God's power than His timing?
3. What happens to our faith when outcomes don't match our expectations?

DISCUSSION 3: “IN DUE TIME” EXPLAINED

Read: Ecclesiastes 3:1; Galatians 4:4; Acts 1:6–7

Teaching Point

Peter uses the word **kairós**, meaning *God's appointed time*, not clock time (**chrónos**).

God doesn't exalt according to urgency—He exalts according to readiness.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think God cares more about readiness than speed?
2. How have you seen waiting shape your character or humility?
3. Is there an area where you're tempted to rush what God may be refining?

DISCUSSION 4: UNDER THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD

In Scripture, the mighty hand of God represents:

- Exodus 3:19–20 (Power)
- Daniel 2:21 (Authority)
- Psalm 63:8 (Protection)

To humble yourself under God's hand means:

- You don't fight the pressure (Isaiah 30:15)
- You don't rush the process (Psalm 27:14)
- You don't lift yourself (Psalm 75:6–7)

Discussion Questions

1. What does "humbling yourself under God's hand" look like practically?
2. How do pride or control show up when waiting gets hard?
3. Which is harder for you: surrendering control or trusting God's pace?

DISCUSSION 5: WHY GOD WAITS

Read: James 1:4; Matthew 13:20–21; Proverbs 20:21

Key Truth

Waiting is not punishment—it's preparation.

What feels like God holding you back is often God holding you together. (Psalm 66:10–12)

Discussion Questions

1. How has God used waiting to mature you in the past?
2. What dangers come with promotion before preparation?
3. How might God be strengthening roots in your life right now?

JESUS: THE PERFECT MODEL

Read: Matthew 26:39; Luke 22:42; Acts 2:24

Discussion Questions

1. What stands out to you about Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane?
2. How does the cross show us the difference between unanswered requests and unbroken promises?
3. How does Jesus' example reshape how you approach waiting?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Reflect & Respond

- Where are you currently waiting on God?
- What is God inviting you to trust Him with—your circumstances or your heart?
- What would it look like to stop managing outcomes and start trusting the process?

Leader Moment: Allow silence here. Give space for reflection.

GROUP PRAYER

Invite group members to share prayer requests related to waiting, pressure, or surrender.

Corporate Reading (Optional):

"I will stay humble under God's hand. I will trust His promises over my preferences. I will not rush His process. I believe God is faithful. And I trust that the same hand that presses is the hand that will lift me—in due time." (1 Peter 5:6)

CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT

Read: Philippians 1:6; Romans 5:6; Galatians 6:9

Remind the group:

- God is still working
- The promise is still intact
- The vision still speaks

In due time.

Leader Reminder: Success isn't finishing the guide—it's helping people take one faithful step of trust this week.

THINGS HAPPENING AT FRESH START CHURCH:

- **Back Stage Tour** - January 18th during the 10:30am service. Get an inside look of Fresh Start Church and what it takes to do a weekend service. Learn about all the various areas to volunteer and use your gifts.
 - Sign up on the Church Center app.
- **Blessing Bag Event** - January 23rd 6pm. Great opportunity to serve our community. More info on the Church Center app.
- **Night to Shine** - February 13th. Still opportunities to volunteer. Sign up to volunteer on the Church Center app.