

Class 7: Notice What's Repeated

Pre-Class

- Read the entire letter of 1 Peter. What words or ideas are repeated?

Notice What's Repeated

- Part of growing as a Bible student is becoming a *noticer*.
- Repetition is key to understanding main ideas and themes.
- Repetition helps us to see how an idea is developed and why it is important.
- Example: Peter addresses his audience as “exiles” or “pilgrims” and repeatedly returns to this metaphor (1 Pet 1:1, 17; 2:11). This pictures Christians as uncomfortable and unnatural in our relationships with worldly people and implies a different allegiance. Certain behavior accompanies exiles (1:17, 2:11).
- Writers tend to come back to the same themes repeatedly and often signal this by repetition. Peter does this with his repeated mention of how others speak about Christians.
- Noticing repetition helps us think God’s thoughts as he intended them to be understood.
- Noticing repetition also helps us to interpret difficult passages by other, simpler passages.

Practice

List places where you see these words and ideas repeated, then summarize how Peter uses each of these terms.

- Holy/sanctified

- Suffer/suffering/trial

- Hope

- Faith

- Love
- Speak against/slander/malign
- Submission/subjection
- Respect/honor
- Passion
- Fear
- Jesus' example
- A new identity for Christians (that leads to certain actions)