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**A Study in 1 Peter
Together**

**4 Corners Church
September 6, 2026**

1 Peter 5:12-14 ¹² *By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it.* ¹³ *She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son.* ¹⁴ *Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.*

Peter says to stand firm.... But **you don't stand firm alone.**

1. You don't just need a friendly church. You need friends at church.

- **A friendly church might know your name. Friends at church know your life.**
- **Don't settle for attending a friendly church. Build friendships at church.**

2. God puts ordinary people together to accomplish extraordinary things.

- Church isn't a collection of impressive people; **it's ordinary, imperfect people joined together around an extraordinary Savior.**
- **God takes what I have, adds it to what you have, adds it to what she has, adds it to what he has—and builds something none of us could have built alone.**
- **"What can I accomplish for God?" < "What can we accomplish for God together?"**

3. Christian community helps safeguard you in a hostile culture.

- Eventually, if you're alone long enough, abnormal things begin to feel normal and normal things begin to feel abnormal. That's one reason you need the church.
- **It is harder to drift when you're tied to other people who are standing firm.**

- A coal removed from the fire cools quickly.

4. "Greet one another with the kiss of love."

- Peter isn't commanding that every church lobby become an awkward kissing convention.
- **Show affection.** These people should know you love them.
- Don't merely ask, "Did I like the sermon? Did I like the music? Did my kids have fun?"
- The early Christians managed to hold two things together:
- **Real affection + appropriate boundaries.**
- They didn't conclude: "Because affection could be misunderstood, don't show affection."
- Nor: "Because we're all Christians (friends or familiar), boundaries don't matter."
- Instead: **Love one another genuinely, and express that love appropriately.**

5. Peter gets the last words exactly right: "Peace to all of you who are in Christ."

- Biblical *peace* is much bigger than simply feeling calm.
- "Peace to all of you **who are in Christ.**"
- **You can have peace without having an easy life.**

4 Big Questions:

1. Do you need to be baptized to say to yourself and everyone else, "I am with Jesus"?
2. Who will you invite to Plus One Sunday (September 20 at 9AM or 11AM)?
3. Who do you personally know who would be blessed by a free oil change?
4. Will you commit to give something meaningful to the "22 Family Offering"?