



Discussion Guide for “The Matrix” *Strangers in a Strange Land* Week 4

Religion far too often is a tool of oppression. People in power often uses biblical texts to justify their oppression. We explore one of these texts in 1 Peter and see that the text was originally meant for liberation. Then we explore how we can hear the text today in a way that calls us to work for justice in our every day lives.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[1 Peter 2:18-25](#)

[Psalm 23](#)

[Ezekiel 34:1-24](#)

[John 10:1-10](#)

[Acts 2:42-47](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

A sacred reading is a method of reading Scripture that invites God to speak to us through the text. If you have never done a sacred reading, here is [a simple step-by-step guide](#). This week’s passage is [Ezekiel 34:1-24](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. Share a time you’ve seen the Bible used to oppress or abuse someone. How did it make you feel?
2. Why does it matter that Peter’s words were written from a place of oppression?
3. Peter’s word “submit” is better translated along the lines of “be who you’re called to be”. What is the difference? Why does it matter?
4. What are places in your life where you’re in a position of power? What about in a position of weakness?
5. What does it look like to imitate Jesus in those places this week?