

[kin-dred WORD]
An FBCPO Family Bible Study Guide
Week of April 12, 2010

Please begin your study with a time of prayer and reading of this week's passage, 1 Peter 5:1-14.

Peter begins speaking to the leaders in the churches, identifying himself as one of them. He encourages them to be caretakers of those under them, not because it's their job so they have to, but willingly. Not for the money, or power, or status, but as a chance to serve others. Their focus is to be on those they serve, not themselves. Peter is speaking of a position of humility. This is not a chance to be boss, but an opportunity to serve by being an example.

But leaders are not the only ones to have this attitude, "in the same way" the young are to be submissive to the older. Not content with that, he goes on to say that "all of you" are to be humble with each other. That doesn't leave anyone out. We are ALL to be humble to each other. It doesn't matter what our position, or level of knowledge or maturity, or age or financial status is. We are all to be humble to each other, and ultimately to God.

One reason for the need for humility is given in verses 8-9: our enemy is looking for someone to devour, and pride makes us taste really good to him! We need to resist him, knowing that others are fighting the same battle. We are not any better than them, not exempt from the same temptations. Don't be discouraged, though. We have the great promise in verse 10 that God will himself restore us and make us strong.

(Please note that this kin-dred WORD is reprinted from 2007)

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