



Todd Arnett | March 22, 2020
Jesus, Your Living Hope

Be obedient to Jesus now as you live in light of His living hope and eternal inheritance

1. God uses “ _____ ” for His great Kingdom purposes

1 Peter 1:1

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Peter’s life resembles _____ in lots of ways and if God could use Peter so powerfully, then you know that He wants to use you

2. The Father, Son and Spirit all have a role in your _____

1 Peter 1:1-2

The word “exile” is translated from a Greek word that means “literally, someone ‘passing through’ but still with personal _____ with the people in that locale”

_____ by the Father, _____ by the Son and _____ by the Spirit

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

3. A living hope will result in an eternal inheritance for those who have _____

1 Peter 1:3-5

That’s why it’s so important in this season to not lose sight that our hope is _____ to Jesus who conquered the enemy that we fear most – death itself

Trinity Core Value:

The Bible is God’s Story given to transform you and to be the authority in your life

“This confident hope gives us the encouragement and enablement we need for daily living. It does not put us in a rocking chair where we complacently await the return of Jesus Christ. Instead, it puts us in the marketplace, on the battlefield, where we keep on going when the burdens are heavy and the battles are hard. Hope is not a sedative; it is a shot of adrenaline, a blood transfusion. Like an anchor, our hope in Christ stabilizes us in the storms of life (Heb. 6:18-19); but unlike an anchor, our hope moves us forward, it does not hold us back.”

Warren Wiersbe, Bible Exposition Commentary, 1 Peter

Now What?

Be obedient to Jesus now as you live in light of His living hope and eternal inheritance

Greetings Trinity Family

As you know, our world has been driven to fear by a microscopic virus. All of humanity has been affected. Health, finance, relationships, social structures, the workplace, and family are all menaced by this tiny creature. Now, whether we are sheltered in our homes or taking caution in our workplace, we see a world that is afraid. The news, conversations, and face masks remind us that we're in danger. The threat is real, we're scrambling to survive, and fear is thick. How are we to respond? I believe the Psalmist nailed it: "When I was in distress I sought the Lord." (Psalm 77:2)

We are beginning a journey through the book of 1 Peter, a letter full of hope. He wrote this letter to encourage and strengthen a group of churches in overwhelming times. God has used this letter throughout history to bring hope and encouragement to God's family.

The message of 1 Peter is a glove fit for today. Full of praise, Peter wrote, "In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." This hope means we can live with the sure expectation of the life to come. We can be confident that God walks with us through the mire and will one day lift us to eternal life with Him. And not only us. During times of heartache, we get to partner with God to populate heaven. Peter challenged us to "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." While the world lives in fear, we get to share hope – a living hope anchored in the resurrected Jesus.

A STUDY GUIDE TO DIVE INTO 1 PETER

This study guide is designed to help you dive into the rich message that God has preserved for us. There are also a few resources and tips along the way. Let's get started.

FIRST: Read through the entire letter of 1 Peter at one sitting. Answer the following questions:

- 1) What seems to be the tone or feeling of the letter?
- 2) What subjects or issues or themes are addressed?

SECOND: Read again 1:1-2. Answer the following questions:

How does Peter describe himself? (1) (Peter is probably writing from Rome in 62-64 AD before Nero's persecution began.)

What is the location of these provinces? You can find this at www.Bible-history.com
Who controlled these areas?

Who is addressed? How are they described? (1-2) How would this be encouraging?

How are the three persons of God involved in their lives? (our lives as well)

What is Peter's greeting? See also 5:10. What might this indicate about Peter's feelings and his purpose in sending this letter?

THIRD: Reread 1:3-5.

Why does Peter praise God? What has He given us?

(Tip: The Greek word translated as “hope” means ‘sure confidence in what God has promised.)

What are the reasons for this confidence?

What is waiting for those who believe in the resurrected Jesus Christ? What is the guarantee that is will be there? When will this happen?

DISCUSS THIS TOGETHER WHEN YOU MEET WITH YOUR HOME GROUP

NOTE #1: If you haven't yet, listen to the message found on our website. These will be available each week.

NOTE #2: On the home page of our website, you can click into “Groups” and learn how you can have audio/visual conversations using an app.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How are you feeling about our situation? Have you been in something like this before? How are your neighbors and friends dealing with this?

What do we know that makes Peter an ordinary person? What makes him extraordinary? Why is he just the right person to send this letter?

What qualifications do we have to be deliverers of the message of living hope?

What stands out to you (or calls up praise) as you read the list of what God has done in our lives? (2-5)

Why is it important to keep our destiny / our inheritance in mind? How does this affect us personally? Corporately? In God's plan to reach our worlds?

Throughout history, the Christian community has been known for their extraordinary love and hope in dire situations. How can we be those people today?

PRAISE, WORSHIP, and PRAYER

It is a blessing to praise and worship God together, especially in these times.

- Reread 1 Peter 1:3-5 together. Spend some time giving God praise for the amazing things he has done in our lives.
- Perhaps play a special song of praise and even sing along.
- Pray for one another and Trinity Church. Pray for those you know in need.
- Pray for God to work through us to bring the message of Jesus to our worlds.

May our Father multiply his grace and peace in your lives,
Steve Springsted