

Live a purposeful, set apart life now as you wait expectantly for Jesus to return for you

1. Live a “leaning _____” kind of life

1 Peter 1:13

2. To live “leaning forward” means that you don’t _____ back to former patterns

1 Peter 1:14

Romans 12:2

3. You’re called to live “set apart for a _____” while you’re “leaning forward”

1 Peter 1:15-16

Jehovah Mekadesh (the LORD who _____)

Colossians 1:21-22

Being holy is a lot like how you view a _____

“Holiness is not something we must achieve by our own efforts. Holiness is a state created and given by God. The people of God are called to maintain the holiness that he has already conferred upon them by his grace in promise and redemption. The emphasis on these verses is “live differently because I have made you different. Be [who] you are”.”

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

In the areas where you seem to have no power to change, rely upon the _____ who is in you to produce change and growth

Now What?

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I'm so glad for our fellowship with God and one another. As we shelter in our homes, I am holding on to a promise from God: "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. . . . He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart." (Psalm 91)

I hope you have been able to access the many opportunities listed on our website. (On our website, click on the box called "From on campus to online" (click here <https://www.trinityonline.org/from-on-campus-to-online/>). Beginning with our Sunday services online, we have something happening almost daily. Also, my Home Group has been video conferencing each week using Zoom (click on this link to learn how <https://www.trinityonline.org/small-group-updates/>). If you have trouble using Zoom, shoot me an email at sspringsted@trinityonline.org.

Yes, the Home Group notes are longer. I don't know your schedule, but as some people are sheltered, some may have more time to dig in. So I am including a bit more information and study than usual. Don't feel any obligation to do everything.

FOR THIS WEEK'S HOME GROUP MEETINGS

SHARE FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE

Have you ever had to spend a long time alone or isolated? What happened? What did you do to pass the time? What did you think about?

For now, what is helping you in this time of sheltering? What is a positive? What is a challenge?

LEARN FROM THE WORD

In the first 12 verses, Peter, reminded us that we have been given so much and none of it can be lost: (1) new birth into a living hope, (2) an inheritance that cannot perish and is kept in heaven, (3) salvation through faith in Jesus Christ who rose from the dead, (4) the promise of reward, (5) filling with glorious joy, and (6) the gospel which we now believe was predicted in Scripture, inspired by God, and sent from heaven. Whew! What an amazing list of eternal blessings from God.

In light of these blessings, how are we to now live?

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16

List the directives of God for how we are to live in light of who we are and what we have been given.

What aspects of our lives are addressed in these commands?

In verse 13, what should be at the center (focus) of our thinking? What would this change in our lives?

To "prepare your minds" (13) means to "gird up the loins of your mind" or "be serious" about controlling or sharpening the focus of your thoughts. What kinds of things influence our thought life? What do we learn from Romans 8:5-6?

"Set your hope" means to actively expect to receive something. How could this happen in our lives? What emotions or mindset might happen if we did this?

The word "revealed" (13) is used repeated in this passage. Read through 1:1-21 and list what will be or has been "revealed." Why is this so important to know? What does this imply about God and His plans? How would it change our lives if we kept His return in the forefront of our thinking and feeling?

Since we are now "children" (14), we are not to revert back to how we lived before we knew Christ. According to this verse, what would lead us backwards?

What do we learn about "desires" from the following passages?
Matthew 6:21

James 1:13-15; 4:1,2

Galatians 5:16-17

1 John 2:16-17

Throughout the Scriptures, we are called to behave like God who is holy (15-16). Holy means to be "apart," i.e. consecrated, separate from the worldly, and "sacred," i.e. connected with God and His purpose. Because we are in Christ, God confers on us holiness. What is this verse 15 saying concerning our holiness?

If we are to live sanctified lives, and this means to live out God's purpose, how is this connected with what we have learned thus far in this chapter? (e.g. How is our purpose impacted by the great truths and promises above? How are the directives in 13-16 involved in being consecrated to God's purposes?

How is living according to these directives connected with our calling to be His representatives / ambassadors in 2 Corinthians 5:18-20?

DISCUSSION IDEAS FOR YOUR GROUP

How have our present circumstances affected how you see your life?

Looking back through our passage, are you surprised by the specific directives from Peter? How are they connected to the amazing truths and promises earlier in the chapter?

How do you feel or think about these directives? Are they overwhelming? Burdensome? Exciting? What challenges or is difficult for you? What helps you to live a life leaning forward? To follow God's call to be prepared in your mind? To be obedient and avoid reverting to former desires? To be holy in all you do?

How can we encourage one another in our call to live as His blessed and holy children?

PRAY TOGETHER

We all know of and have many of our own prayer needs. As you pray for each other, please remember to pray for so many other needs.

- Many in our Trinity Family are sick with disease, injured, and some have been exposed to Covid-19
- Many are now unemployed and underemployed
- Many of our Global Partners are in difficult places
- Many of us have family and friends who are living without the hope of Christ and need God to prepare us to share the hope we have
- Many of our medical and front line friends are serving the world in danger of exposure, lacking protection, needing supplies, and sacrificing themselves for us
- Many people from Trinity are serving us and our community

Thank you for praying.

Grace and peace to you,
Steve Springsted