

You demonstrate that Jesus is Lord of your life when you repay evil with blessing

1. Because blessing _____ you, you can bless those who insult you

1 Peter 3:8-14

We bless because we've been blessed and because we'll be blessed _____

Psalm 34:10

Psalm 34:18

Isaiah 8:11-13

2. You honor Christ when you answer _____ like He did

1 Peter 3:15-16

Your calling is to influence your world with Jesus

Matthew 5:43-48

3. If you suffer for doing good, it won't catch God by _____

1 Peter 3:17

Not only is God in control of who's in control, but He's also in control when your life seems _____
_____ control . . .

Not only did Jesus provide your pardon, but that He also provided a _____ for you to "follow in His steps"

Now What?

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INTERESTED IN AN ONLINE GROUP?

On Tuesdays at **7:00 pm**, we meet in an online small group. We will journey through the book of Mark, looking at Jesus' life and works. We will use online videos from "Christianity Explored." You can join in through our website at www.trinityonline.org (click "Online Groups" button)

SHARE FROM YOUR LIFE EXPERIENCE

Jesus is well known for his command to "love your enemies." What comes to mind when you think about this directive?

LEARN FROM THE BIBLE

The walk through 1 Peter began with amazing promises, a call to be people of hope, holiness, and humility. Each of these includes a call to faith in God who will help us to be like Jesus in our behavior and attitude. This week is another big step of faith to "Revere Christ as Lord."

Read 1 Peter 3:8-17.

This passage has challenging directives. List your summary of the key commands.

Throughout 1 Peter, he gives the reasons and motivations for following such difficult commands. Why and how can we follow these commands? (Be sure to include verse 15)

What promises are included in this passage? How does this enable our love?

Peter's command in 3:15-16 is a call to be prepared to give an answer. He includes ...

- How: By revering Christ as Lord in your hearts
- Call: To be prepared to give an answer for the hope that you have and do this with gentleness and respect
- Result: That those who speak against God may be ashamed (may realize their error and repent and believe), AND that you glorify God by following Jesus' model out of reverence for Him. (This theme is throughout 1 Peter.)

How can we be “prepared to give” a well-reasoned reply about why we have hope?

- 1) Look again at chapter one and list the reasons for our hope.
- 2) Prepare a reasoned response. Consider your life without Christ and with Christ, why you need Jesus and what Jesus did for you, your future in Christ. (All of these are themes in 1 Peter.)

The theme of suffering for doing well is throughout this letter. What do we learn about suffering in this passage?

DISCUSS TOGETHER

How did Peter ‘raise the bar’ in his call to love others? What makes this possible?

The theme of suffering for doing good and repay evil with blessing comes from Jesus. How does this reveal the character of God and His actions toward us? How is this central to the good news of Jesus?

Throughout this letter, Peter presents three ‘audiences’ for our lives: God, other believers and the lost world. What does 3:15-16 reveal about how we are to live? How can we as a church follow this calling?

PRAY TOGETHER

We are hearing each week of how God is using this time of trials to grow and strengthen His kingdom and His family. Please keep praying for one another, for your worlds, and for our church family to be “revering Christ as Lord.”