

# A Living Hope

Jesus' resurrection gives believers a living hope.

LEADER TRANSFORMATION



The Transformation for Adult LifeGroups

1 PETER 1:3-9

August 11, 2019

**TODAY'S TEXT**—open your Bible, use a Bible app on your phone, or follow along below

**Text: 1 PETER 1:3-9**

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup> These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

## FIRST THOUGHTS

- The term "bucket list" is commonly used to describe the things a person wants to experience before they die. What is something you would put on your bucket list?
- A bucket list item could be something that you hope to accomplish (like have kids or travel around the world) or something you wish for (to meet someone famous or do something extraordinary). Is there a difference between "hoping" to do something and "wishing" to do something? What is it?

## EXPLORE THE TEXT

### HOPE DISCOVERED—v. 3-4

What do you know about Peter from the Bible? How would you describe him? Peter probably wrote this letter about 30 years after Jesus died. As you read it, look for ways that Peter is still acting like Peter in the gospels. Also look for ways that Peter has changed over time from the way he is described in the gospels.

> Read 1 Peter 1:3-4

- What do the words "living hope" mean to you? What does Peter say is the source of our living hope?
- In addition to living hope, Peter says we have an inheritance. How is our inheritance described in verse 4? How is this different than what we normally think of as an inheritance?
- How are hope and inheritance linked? How do people place their hope in a worldly inheritance? What does it mean to you to base our hope in a spiritual inheritance?

### HOPE ASSURED

> Read 1 Peter 1:5

- How is it reassuring that our inheritance is shielded by God's power? How does that give us hope?
- What does it mean that we are shielded THROUGH faith BY God's power?

### HOPE CELEBRATED

> Read 1 Peter 1:6-9

- What does Peter say the result of the suffering and trials they are facing will be? Why does he believe this?

- ° When we face suffering or trials, how does hope in the promises of God anchor us?
- ° How have you seen someone display hope in the midst of suffering?
- ° The salvation of our souls is the culmination of our hope. If someone asked you how you know it is not merely false hope, what would you say?

## SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE

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**Personal Challenge:** What can you do to focus on the goal of salvation rather than fleeting and temporary circumstances? (1) Identify the circumstances that challenge your faith and threaten your focus. (2) Then turn your focus on Jesus, the living hope, and answer these questions: Does Jesus have the power to change, transform, or deliver you from these circumstances? When have you seen Him do this in the past? Will He be with you as you cope with whatever happens? Will your present circumstances change your final destiny and eternal life?

## PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK

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Next week we will be studying 1 Peter 1:13-25. Our living hope should result in a life of holiness. In what ways can you show holiness without a "holier than thou" attitude?

## READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

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**11th** – Jeremiah 7-9; John 13 | **12th** – Jeremiah 10-12; John 14 | **13th** – Jeremiah 13-15; John 15 | **14th** – Jeremiah 16-17; Psalm 96; John 16 | **15th** – Jeremiah 18-20; Psalm 93; John 17 | **16th** – 2 Kings 24; Jeremiah 22; Psalm 112; John 18 | **17th** – Jeremiah 23, 25; John 19

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### Our Mission:

TO KNOW GOD AND BE  
CHANGED BY HIM IN A  
WAY THAT WILL CHANGE  
THE WORLD.

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### Our Vision:

TO BE A CHURCH FOR  
THE UNCHURCHED,  
HERE AND AROUND  
THE WORLD.

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### Adult LifeGroups:

INVITE AND INVEST IN  
THOSE WITHOUT CHRIST.  
CREATE COMMUNITY.  
MAKE DISCIPLES.

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