



Foster City Campus

Our Living Hope

1 Peter 1:3 - 12

Jan 22, 2017 || Neal Benson

Peter writes this letter to a group of believers in Asia Minor who are being persecuted for their faith. In the introduction of the letter he calls them “exiles.” They have been rejected by the world for their faith in Christ. Our text this morning is almost like the Cliff Notes for the rest of the book. Verses 3-12 are going to be the foundation that Peter builds on in the rest of the book. The subjects, concepts and topics we look at this morning are going to be further developed in the upcoming chapters in our series.

1. In the introduction of the sermon Neal talked about the persecution the church is going through. How did hearing about the persecuted church and people who were martyred for their faith in 2016 impact you?
2. In verses 3-5 Peter provides three reasons to praise God: the first is because of His mercy, the second is that the resurrection of Christ gives you a living hope, and the third is that you are shielded by God’s power. What one do you need to apply to your life this week?
3. Thinking about the inheritance of salvation we have waiting for us, read Romans 8:17 and discuss this open the conversation for discussion.
4. Peter moves dramatically from ecstasy (verses 3-5) to agony (verses 6-7). He moves from praising God because of the hope we have in Christ, to praising God because He will give us hope in our trials. What trial are you going through that you need to praise God or what trial has helped you praise God?
5. Praise is the best response to your trials. Even though we don’t see Him, we love Him and can praise Him. Peter knew this first hand. Peter had seen Jesus but sees Him no longer. And we don’t see Jesus but our love for Him get’s us through the trial. How does our love for God get us through trials (verses 8-9)
6. In verse 10 Peter says: “The prophets, who spoke of the grace, that was to come to you...” How have you experienced this grace in your life? How can you be a person who shows this same grace to others? Have you failed at showing this grace to anyone recently?
7. Close your time in prayer

