

In Christ: PURE

1 Peter 1:13-2:3 Prepared by
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Week Beginning 8 February 2009

Discuss (5 minutes as a group)

How does your treatment of one another reflect our faith in Christ?

Read, Reflect and Apply

This section of Peter has 5 main directives that flow out of who we are in Christ

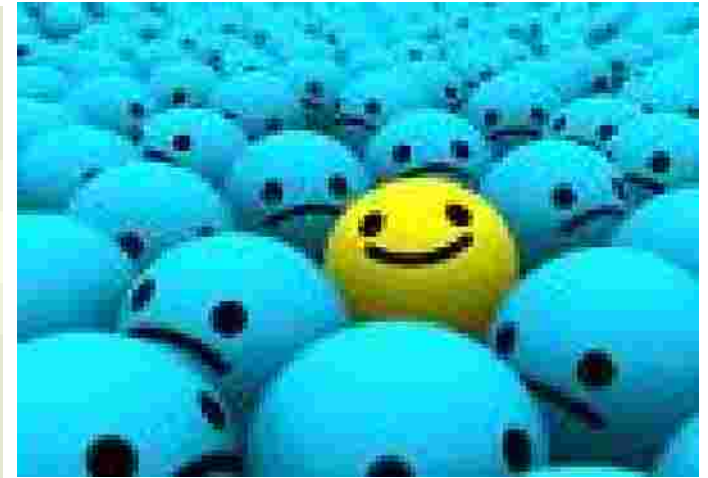
1. set your hope fully on Jesus v13
2. be holy v15
3. conduct yourselves with fear v17
4. love each other v22
5. long for spiritual milk 2:2

Read v13-21

1. v13 begins with the connecting word 'therefore'. How does v13ff connect to v1-12?

2. How has Peter already used hope in the previous verses and how does he build upon it here in v13?

3. What is the flow on effect of us 'fully setting our hope on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed'?



4. What are some things in your life that are distracting or preventing you from having your eyes upon the yet to be revealed hope? What can we do about this?

5. Peter is quoting Lev 11:44-45 (and also Lev 19:1-2, 20:6-8) in v15-16. Why were Israel asked to be holy? Why can Peter make the same request of us?

6. What does it look like to live a holy life (v15)? What obstacles do you face?

7. What reasons does Peter give us to fear God?

8. How does your life reflect or not reflect a healthy fear of God?

9. What motivations does Peter give us in v18-21 to press on as 'obedient children'? (Hint: there are three)

- A.
- B.
- C.

How do they motivate you?

10. In what areas do you feel pressured to conform to the 'empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers'?

Read v22-2:3

11. What is the purpose of purification (v22)?

11. How is v24-25 a reason for 'loving each other deeply'? (Notice that v24 starts with the word 'for' or 'because')

12. How is our love as Christians different from worldly love?

13. How has your faith in Jesus changed the way you relate to people?

14. 2:2-3 ask us to 'crave' or 'long for' or to have a 'deep desire' for spiritual milk. What is spiritual milk and its results? See the previous verses for help.

15. What sustenance do you take in order to 'grow up to salvation'?

The basis for all five commands are either based on looking back to the cross or forward to what awaits us in heaven. Christianity is not a list of what to do and what not to do but rather a living out of our relationship with God through Jesus.

Pray

(Try to stay focussed on the issues the passage raises)

- That we would be loving of our Christian brothers and sisters
- For courage and boldness to set our hope on the future that awaits us in all circumstances
- That we would crave for spiritual milk, not longing for other meaningless things
- Give thanks that we have already tasted that the Lord is good in his work of salvation!!
- That we would continue to model obedience to the abiding word of God.
- That by the power at work within us you might make us into mature family members and followers of your Son.
- Many connections with and beyond our community that we might speak of God's wonderful salvation in Christ.

