



Reflection Questions

November 9, 2025

Reason for Hope

1 Peter 3:13-17

True security comes not from avoiding conflict, but from being anchored in the living hope of Jesus Christ. When we honor Christ as holy in our hearts, we are freed from the fear of man and empowered to be witnesses of God's truth with both courage and gentleness. The implications for our spiritual life are profound: we can face any circumstance, knowing that God's favor is not measured by worldly prosperity but by our faithfulness to Him, even in suffering.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does being truly secure in your identity in Christ change the way you respond when others criticize, mock, or persecute you for your faith?
2. Peter suggests that speaking truth in love generally leads to less conflict, yet sometimes it provokes hostility. How do you discern when opposition comes from your own approach versus from the world's hatred of righteousness?
3. In what ways have you confused suffering with God's displeasure or lack of blessing in your life, and how does Peter's teaching challenge that perspective?
4. What does it practically look like to honor Christ as holy in your heart before engaging in conversations about your faith with unbelievers?
5. How prepared are you to give a defense for the hope within you, and what specific objections to Christianity do you feel least equipped to address?
6. Why is gentleness and respect so critical when defending the faith, and how can we maintain that posture when facing aggressive or dismissive opponents?
7. How does the prosperity gospel's promise of material blessing contradict what Scripture teaches about Christian suffering, and why is this distinction so important?
8. Jesus said to proclaim from the housetops what He told us in the dark. What truth has God revealed to you privately that He is calling you to declare publicly despite your fear?