

# Prevail in a Pandemic | 1 Peter

WEEK TWO | PASTOR BEN JOHNSTON

## You Can Prevail in a Pandemic Because:

**You have life, you have resurrection power in you. (1 Peter 1:3-5)**

- ◇ The triumph of the resurrection (Ephesians 2:1-5)
- ◇ Galatians 2:20
- ◇ A major theme in the early church was the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. (Acts 4:1-2, Acts 4:33)
- ◇ Your primary identity is not one of a sinner. Your primary identity is a son or daughter of the King of kings and Lord of lords!

**Our hope is not dead because our Savior is not dead.**

**You have an inheritance that is imperishable. (Ezekiel 44:28, Ephesians 1:3, 1 Peter 1:6-7)**

- ◇ God allows hard times to come to demonstrate that our faith is genuine.
- ◇ God refines our faith in the furnace of life, and brings triumph out of your trials.
- ◇ The hardships we face must be put into perspective by viewing them through the lens of eternity.
- ◇ There is purpose in your pain. Your faith is refined and rewarded in hard times.

**There is purpose in our pain. Your faith is refined and will be rewarded. (1 Peter 1:8-9)**

**You have Joy inexpressible. (1 Peter 1:10-12)**

- ◇ We are more blessed and more privileged than the prophets or the angels.
- ◇ They can only have imagined what we get to experience daily through Christ.

QUOTE

“This hope does not put us in a rocking chair where we complacently await the return of Jesus. Instead, it puts us in the marketplace and on the battlefield and keeps us going when the burdens are heavy and the battles are hard. Hope is not a sedative. It is a shot of adrenaline.” - Warren Wiersbe

1 PETER 1:7

“So that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

# GROW | Small Group Questions

Opening questions: In what significant ways has the global pandemic affected you?

1. Read 1 Peter 1:1-9 together. What are the various ways Peter says believers have a special identity in Christ?
2. Now, carefully think through what this identity means in your life. What can be the effect in our lives of embracing or failing to embrace these truths about who we are?
3. Peter says in 1:6-7 that suffering and trials benefit our faith. Does this make sense to you? Explain.
4. What does Peter say are Christians' reasons for joy?

## GO

Go through 1 Peter 1:3-12 and write down a list of "I am" statements. For example, from 1 Peter 1:3 you can write down: "I am born again to a living hope"

Keep this list close to you, and throughout the week read it outloud. Allow it to remind you of who you are in Christ Jesus.

