

**Pastor Jason Huffman**

**1 Peter 3:5**

**6/8/2025**

### **Sermon Recap**

Pastor Jason emphasizes the significance of how our beliefs about God shape our relationships with Him and others. He highlights God is a great Father who provides abundant life, a living hope anchored in the resurrection of Jesus, and abundant mercy. Ultimately, trusting these truths should transform our lives in Christ.

### **Discussion Questions**

How do you understand the concept of God as a 'great Father' based on what we looked at, and how does this influence your relationship with God?

- Pastor Jason discussed how God is a perfect, protective, and providing Father, which encourages a deeper connection with Him.
- Reflect on your thoughts on fathers you have known. What qualities do you value, and how might those inform your understanding of God as your Father?

Peter described our hope in God as a 'living hope' because of Jesus' resurrection. Why is this important for our daily lives?

- The message emphasized that our hope is not based on luck or chance but attached to Christ, who conquered death.
- Knowing this, how can Jesus provide us with strength and hope today?

What does it mean to say that God is 'abundantly merciful'? How does this concept affect your view of forgiveness?

- We know that we do not deserve God's mercy, and yet He offers it generously to us.
- Consider someone you've had difficulty forgiving. How can understanding God's abundant mercy change your approach to extending mercy to them?

Why is it significant that our eternal inheritance will not fade or decay?

- Our inheritance from God is eternal, unlike things in this world that are temporary.
- What are some things in your life that feel especially temporary? How can focusing on the eternal change your priorities or outlook on those temporary things?

Pastor Jason mentioned that God 'keeps us' and guards us through faith. How does this assurance impact your relationship with God?

- This can provide confidence and rest, knowing that God protects those who believe in Him.
- How can knowing that God is guarding you influence your decisions or actions when facing challenges or fears in your life?

### **Prayer Prompts**

- Ask for God to help us apply the lessons of looking to Him this week.
  - Pray for deeper gratitude in all circumstances.
  - Request guidance to embody the hope we have in Christ.
  - Seek God's wisdom in how to reflect His mercy to others.
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### **Teaching Notes:**

#### **Message Title: Good Words, Great Life**

**Big Idea: What we believe about God influences how we relate to God and live our lives.**

**3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

#### **1. God is a great Father.**

A father is more than someone who goes to work or fixes stuff.

A father is more than a protective person that provides for a family

...A father brings life.

John 10:10 Jesus said, I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

John 14:9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father

John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, **15** that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is referring to the time in the wilderness the Jews murmured and complained because of their impatience and lack of faith on the wilderness journey.

God is the giver of life, no one takes it or makes it w/o Him.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name

## **2. God gives living hope.**

I Corinthians 15:14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty.

## **3. God is abundantly merciful.**

Abundant: means great, much, many; often.

**4** to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

## **4. God gives an eternal inheritance.**

**5** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

## **5. God keeps us.**

This means protect by a military guard, to prevent hostile invasion, or to keep the inhabitants of a besieged city from flight.

A great life is not absent of difficulties but is inclusive of God's presence & goodness.

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## **5 Day Devotional**

This five-day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into the sermon from this weekend. We will explore the significance of understanding God as our great Father and the abundant life He offers through His mercy and grace.

### **Day 1**

1 Peter 1:3-5

In the opening verses of Peter's letter, we are reminded of the foundational truth that God is a Father. His abundant mercy creates new life in us, and this new life is intertwined with hope—living hope. This first day invites you to reflect deeply on the characteristics of God as a Father who not only creates but also sustains and nurtures us.

As you consider your relationship with Him, know that His kindness and protection define our identity as His children. This truth empowers us to live in a way that honors and reflects His nature in our daily lives. Understanding God as your Father means embracing the hope He provides, and today is an opportunity to appreciate that this hope is not a distant wish but a present reality found in the person of Jesus Christ. Reflect on the profound

implications of being a child of God, and let this identity shape your interactions and choices.

- What does it mean to you personally to have God as your Father?
- In what areas of your life can you more fully embrace the hope that comes from knowing Him?
- How does understanding God as a nurturer change the way you view challenges you face?
- Pray for deeper understanding of God's love as a Father.
- Reflect on moments in your life where you felt God's guidance and protection.

## **Day 2**

John 10:10

On this second day, we delve into the concept of living hope. Jesus declared that He came to give us life, and not just life, but life more abundantly. This notion invites us to explore what it means to have a hope that is alive and actively working in our lives. When we anchor our hope in the resurrected Christ, we find assurance that transcends life's fleeting circumstances. This living hope encourages us to rise above despair, knowing that our future is secured in Him.

As you meditate on this scripture, consider how the resurrection impacts your daily experiences. Living with this hope transforms mundane moments into opportunities for joy, peace, and purpose. Today, redefine your perspective on life's difficulties; remember that hope does not disappoint, for it is rooted in a living Savior who provides a foundation for your faith.

- How does the promise of abundant life in Christ influence your outlook on daily challenges?
- What are some specific ways you can actively engage with your living hope?
- Reflect on recent moments where you have experienced God's peace in challenging times.
- Thank God for the hope that comes from His resurrection.
- Ask for strength to live each day in the fullness of that hope.

## **Day 3**

Ephesians 2:4-5

This day centers on God's abundant mercy. It is vital to recognize that despite our shortcomings and failures, God does not recoil from us; rather, He extends mercy generously. His merciful nature is foundational to our faith; it is through His mercy that we experience the new birth into a living hope. Recognizing our unworthiness heightens our appreciation for God's grace, prompting us to live in gratitude for the blessings we do not deserve. Embracing the reality of our need for mercy opens our hearts to the richness of God's love. This acknowledgment allows us to approach God confidently, knowing that His arms are always open to receive us, regardless of our past mistakes.

As you reflect on His mercy today, focus on how it shapes your interactions with others. When you understand how much mercy you've been given, you are empowered to extend mercy in your own relationships.

- In what ways do you struggle to accept God's mercy in your life?
- How can understanding God's mercy change the way you treat others?

- Reflect on times when you have experienced God's unwavering compassion.
- Pray for a heart that is quick to extend mercy to others as God has done for you.
- Reflect on areas in your life where you need to seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

#### **Day 4**

1 Peter 1:4

Today's focus is on the eternal inheritance that God has prepared for us. Peter describes our inheritance as incorruptible and undefiled, which shifts our attention from earthly possessions to the treasures awaiting us in Heaven. This perspective helps us understand the temporary nature of life's struggles and the ultimate significance of what God has secured for us. Our inheritance is a source of hope and encouragement, reminding us of our identity and destiny as children of God.

Consider how this eternal inheritance alters your view of current hardships. It is easy to become consumed by what we can see, but the reality of our future in Christ enables us to navigate life with patience and endurance. Let this day be a reminder to focus on the eternal and the unshakeable while fostering gratitude for God's gifts that transcend this world.

- How does understanding your eternal inheritance change your perspective on daily struggles?
- In what ways can you cultivate an eternal focus in your life?
- Reflect on what it means to be part of God's family when facing challenges.
- Thank God for the inheritance that awaits you in Heaven.
- Pray for the ability to keep your eyes on eternal things amid worldly distractions.

#### **Day 5**

Philippians 1:6

As we conclude this devotional journey, we reflect on how God keeps us secure in our faith. The assurance that God will complete the good work He has begun in us is a powerful testament to His faithfulness. In our walk with Christ, there may be moments of doubt or fear, but we are assured that He guards us and upholds us through all circumstances. This truth should fill us with peace and confidence as we strive to live out our faith.

Today embrace the reality that God is not just hoping we'll persevere; He is actively involved in our journey, keeping us anchored in His love. As you ponder this final message, consider how you can lean into His strength and not your own. Reflect on the ways God has worked in your life, and trust that He will continue to guide and protect you until the day of Christ's return.

- How can knowing that God is actively keeping you affect your daily life?
- In what situations can you learn to rely more on God's power rather than your own?
- Reflect on the times you have felt God's protection and guidance in your faith journey.
- Pray for confidence in God's promise to keep you steady in your faith.
- Ask for insight into recognizing areas where you may need to rely more on God's strength.