

A LIVING HOPE
1 PETER SERMON SERIES

SERMON LISTENING GUIDE // DATE: _____

1 Peter 1:1-2 // Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

The Foundation of Hope

1 Peter 1:1-2

What is hope founded upon?

I. The grace of the Father's love (v. 1-2a)

A. Chosen before time began (Acts 2:23)

B. Secure in God's unconditional love

II. The grace of the Spirit's transformation (v. 2b)

A. The Spirit's work prior to faith (John 3:3,5)

B. Set apart for God's purposes

III. The grace of Christ's sacrifice (v. 2c)

A. Obedience and sprinkling (Ex. 24:3-8)

B. Cleansing the guilty conscience (Heb. 10:19,22)

APPLICATION GUIDE

1. In what ways do you have a conditional understanding of God's love? What is the evidence of this?
2. How does the Holy Spirit's work in your life prior to you trusting Christ help bring assurance of your salvation?
3. Do you struggle to get rid of guilt? What keeps you from repeatedly and freely embracing the forgiveness found in Jesus Christ?
4. Are you standing firm in the grace of God? What is the evidence of a life increasingly founded upon grace?

MISSIONARY PRAYER // DONALD & CLAIRE-LISE COBB, MTW - FRANCE



The Cobbs serve under Mission to the World in Velaux, Aix-en-Provence, in southern France. Don teaches in the only Evangelical Reformed Seminary in the French-speaking world. His specialty is New Testament and Church planting. Claire-Lise teaches in the local Christian school. They have 2 sons, Dimitri and Lucas.

The Cobbs were on Home Ministry Assignment in the US during the beginning part of the year. Since returning to France, Covid 19 has become a daily preoccupation for all of us. This has been particularly the case for Claire-Lise, who caught it herself, probably during the return trip from her parents' in Switzerland. Fortunately, it has been a fairly mild case, with few respiratory difficulties. She's been very tired because of it, though, and there have been some

after effects for which she's being followed by our family doctor. I had some of the symptoms as well for several days, but am almost certainly a "healthy carrier," for which I'm thankful. This has allowed us to continue on in a more-or-less normal way—if you can call anything during this period "normal!" We appreciate your ongoing prayers for our health, especially that Claire-Lise would have complete healing in the coming days and weeks!

Dimitri has been living in Lyon for the last two years and is remaining there throughout the quarantine. It's been difficult for him to move forward in his studies, given the lack of interaction with his Dissertation director, teachers and fellow students. We are thankful, though, that he has several apartment mates, so quarantine doesn't mean total isolation!

Lucas' situation is somewhat complicated. Due to the situation in the States, all his classes have gone over to streaming and exams will be taken online. This means that Lucas doesn't really need to remain on campus and, given the circumstances, he would prefer to return to France. However, because Claire-Lise has been suffering from Covid, and I've most likely been a carrier of it, we didn't think it wise to bring Lucas back here before we were better.

One of the most natural reactions in the face of danger—either health wise or in terms of economic "shakedown"—is a fear that can be, and often is, paralyzing. It has been increasingly impressed upon us that, as Christians, we are not called to fear but to live in the truth that God truly is with us. More specifically, Immanuel—"God with us"—gives this specific promise to His Church in order that she might bear witness to Him—"even to the end of the age!" (Matt. 28:20)—in a world whose very foundations are shaken.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

What are they?

The Bible is clear that God has designed life to be lived in dynamic relationships of trust and love. For this reason, Christ Church East also meets weekly in homes throughout the city for food, fellowship, Bible study and prayer. While groups meet weekly, they are not defined by a night of the week or a time on the clock. They are a people increasingly living their lives together and learning how to love one another in gospel community. Currently our groups meet virtually through Zoom.

How do they work?

Groups are open to people in all seasons and walks of life. Each group provides child care so that the adults can focus on study, sharing, and prayer after a time of food and fellowship. On a regular basis, men and women break out separately to address gender specific needs. Typically, our groups take time off during the months of June and July. If you are interested in joining a group, fill out our online connect card (www.christchurcheast.org/connectwithus).

COMMUNITY BIBLE READING // JUNE 1 - 7

Day	Date	Read
Mon	6/1/20	1 Corinthians 16, Psalm 48
Tues	6/2/20	Catch-up day, Psalm 49
Wed	6/3/20	2 Corinthians 1:1-2:13, Psalm 50
Thurs	6/4/20	2 Corinthians 2:14-4:6, Psalm 51
Fri	6/5/20	2 Corinthians 4:7-5:10, Psalm 52
Sat	6/6/20	2 Corinthians 5:11-7:4, Psalm 53
Sun	6/7/20	2 Corinthians 7:5-16, Psalm 54