

# EXILES - SAVED

## SMALL GROUP NOTES 03/02/19

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## SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 1: 3-12

## SCRIPTURE CONTEXT

In this passage, Peter gives us an exciting explanation of what it means to be saved. We are not just saved *from* sin and darkness, but *into* a living and eternal inheritance and hope.

Verses 3-5 remind us that our salvation is both achieved and safeguarded by our eternal God. It is a free gift for us, won through the resurrection of Jesus, whose victory over death is once and for all time, sealing the destiny of those who trust in Him. Our receiving of the wonderful inheritance Peter describes is based on God's faithfulness and commitment, and not our performance.

Verses 6-12 go on to encourage us how this can shape our lives now. The promise of eternity and our true home gives us power to rejoice despite current circumstances, to find security and confidence in the face of worldly insecurity. Jesus' victory also means that we can know relationship with God now, experiencing his love, comfort and wisdom as he works even in the troubles of today to bring us good.

## QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to have an inheritance that is (verse 4) "imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you"?
2. Verse 3 describes how our faith is entirely due to God's mercy, causing us to be born again. What are the hallmarks of genuine faith that we read about throughout verses 3-9?
3. Read Revelation 22: 3-5. What excites you most about our eternal future?
4. Jesus took all the punishment for sin on the cross for us. How does this affect how we face trials and suffering?