

Reflecting on 1 Peter 3:1-22
Living as a Counter-Cultural Christian
December 5, 2021

Introduction: In chapter 3 of 1 Peter, Peter is driving home the idea that Christians need to live in a counter-cultural way. The culture pulls us away from Christ, but (here's the Big Idea) *being an elect exile means embracing a life-transforming faith that causes believers to swim against the current of the culture.* Peter examines this concept in several arenas including marriage, the church, and living in a world that is hostile to Christians.

Discussion Starters

1. We covered a lot of ground in this week's study. As you listened to the message, which section caught your attention? What stuck out to you as important?

- Living as a countercultural wife (1-6)
- Living as a countercultural husband (7)
- Relating to others in the church (8-12)
- Suffering as a countercultural Christian (13-16)
- Following Christ's example of suffering (17-22)

2. How does Peter's presentation of how a wife should live fit in with the current view of marriage in 21st century America? What parts specifically conflict with the prevailing view in our country?

3. What instructions does Peter give husbands in verse 7? What would have to be true in the heart of the Christian husband for him to live this way?

4. Here are the five descriptions of Christian conduct within the church from verse 8:

- unity of mind
- sympathy
- brotherly love
- a tender heart
- a humble mind

Which one is the most difficult for the church as a whole? Which one is most difficult for you personally? Why?

5. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16. These verses command us to be prepared to give an answer for our hope. What is involved in making these preparations? How can Christians obey these verses?

6. Christ is often held up in the Scriptures as our example. In this text, Christ is held up as an example of suffering for doing right. How does Christ's example help us if and when we suffer for our faith (or, at the very least, become disadvantaged because we are Christians)?

7. What is one thing that you think needs to change about your life as a result of what you've heard today through the message and through life group? How can the group pray with you about this necessary change?