

# Reflecting on 1 Peter 1:3-9: Our Living Hope

## September 12, 2021

**Introduction:** This text details for us how God wants us to have a Living Hope, which comes in two varieties:

- True believers in Christ have hope for the future (3-6)
- True believers in Christ have hope for today (6-9)

The message this week outlines three reasons why each of the above statements is true and culminates in the following **Big Idea:** *God wants you to live your life in a settled hope for the future and for today.*

### **Discussion Starters:**

1. Have you ever experienced a feeling of hopelessness in your life? If you are able, share with the group what you were going through and how you felt.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In verses 3-5, Peter lists out three reasons for Christians to have hope for the future: **a living hope, a heavenly inheritance, and a sure salvation.** Explain each of these ideas

in your own words, and list how they inspire hope for the future.

3. As Christians, we have the confidence that every circumstance we experience, good or difficult, is by design from our Creator. 1 Peter 1:6 affirms that even trials are “necessary.” Why does God allow trials into the lives of believers?

4. Through the course of ministering to believers over the years, I (Pastor Pete) have noticed something: it is easier to recognize God’s work in other people’s trials than it is to recognize His work in my own trials. Why is this? What does this say about our need for other brothers and sisters in our lives?

5. It is not always easy to focus on Jesus (who He is and what He's done for us) when our lives are swamped with difficulties. What are things that you have done to help keep your focus on Jesus? Or, asked differently, what advice would you give a Christian who is experiencing difficulties in order to help them focus on Jesus?

6. Fast-forward in your mind to the last day when Christ will return and we will see Him face to face. (This day is closer than you think.) What things about your life are going to matter in that day? How does that compare with what matters to you right now?