

1 PETER

LIVING HOPE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING

First

LIVING HOPE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD | FEBRUARY 27TH, 2022 | PASTOR STEVE STEELE

“ I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.”
~ 1 PETER 1:1B (NLT)

_____ in your neighborhood.

“ So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. **14** So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. **15** But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. **16** For the Scriptures say, 'You must be holy because I am holy.'”
~ 1 PETER 1:13-16 (NLT)

We _____ in our neighborhood, but we _____ than our neighbors.

“ With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. **18** Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. **19** They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.”
~ EPHESIANS 4:17-19 (NLT)

We are _____ in the neighborhood.

“ And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as 'temporary residents.'”
~ 1 PETER 1:17 (NLT)

_____ your neighborhood.

“ This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem: **5** 'Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. **6** Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! **7** And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare.'”

8 This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Do not let your prophets and fortune-tellers who are with you in the land of Babylon trick you. Do not listen to their dreams, **9** because they are telling you lies in my name. I have not sent them,' says the Lord.

10 This is what the Lord says: 'You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. **11** For I know the plans I have for you,' says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.'”
~ JEREMIAH 29:4-11 (NLT)

Be the _____ in your neighborhood.

God bought you a _____ in _____ neighborhood.

“ For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. ¹⁹ It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. ²⁰ God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

²¹ Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.”

~ 1 PETER 1:18-21 (NLT)

“ You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. ¹⁴ He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.”

~ COLOSSIANS 2:13-14 (NLT)

SO WHAT?

We are _____ to our neighborhoods.

“ The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. ² These were his instructions to them: The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. ³ Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. ⁴ Don't take any money with you, nor a traveler's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road.

⁵ Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, 'May God's peace be on this house.' ⁶ If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. ⁷ Don't move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and drinking what they provide. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay.

⁸ If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick, and tell them, 'The Kingdom of God is near you now.'”

~ LUKE 10: 1-9 (NLT)

You are _____ in your neighborhood.

Recipe from the Kitchen of BELINDA WITTIE

AUNT BELINDA'S - Snickerdoodle Recipe

Ingredients:

1 Cup Shortening 2 ¾ Cup Flour
1 ½ Cup Sugar 2 tsp. Cream of Tarter
2 Eggs 1 tsp. Soda & 1 tsp. Salt

Instructions:

Mix together shortening, sugar, & eggs. Add dry ingredients and mix well. Refrigerate for 2 hrs. Remove from refrigerator and roll into balls.

3 Tbs. Sugar & 1 Tbs. Cinnamon

Roll balls in sugar cinnamon mixture. Bake at 360 for 11 minutes.

Snickerdoodles are to be Chewy NOT Crispy.

DISCUSSION Questions: COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS now available on the APP |    

- 1- How many times have you moved in your life? What place do you most feel is "Home" to you?
- 2- What do you love most about your neighborhood? What neighbor is your favorite neighbor & Why?
- 3- Read 1 Peter 1:18-21 all the way through out loud. (Try NIV or NLT) Pause for a minute of silence. Re-read the passage all the way through in another translation (Try the Message or Living Bible.) Share what one thing stands out to you from the passage?
- 4- Re-read 1 Peter 1:14-15. In what ways should we be living differently than our Neighbors? How can we do that and still be deeply connected with our neighbors?
- 5- Re-read 1 Peter 1:17. How does the fact that we are "temporary residents" affect the way you live in your neighborhood?
- 6- Re-read Jeremiah 29:5-7. How can we work for the peace and prosperity of our neighborhoods and our city?
- 7- What one neighbor will you reach out to this week?