

Connect Group Discussion Guide – 7/16/2023

1 Peter 2-3:7 The Life and Letters of Peter

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvR0S5fB8AzraGYts4eQfg> (Posted on Monday)

Audio Only: On Spotify or Apple Podcasts: Connection Point Podcast

Opening discussion: What do you know now you didn't know 30 years ago?

Highlights

- Peter was a real person who was really changed by Jesus.
- **1 Peter 2:1-2** “Therefore....”
 - 1 Peter 1:3-4a, new birth, LIVING Hope
 - 1 Peter 1:17, foreigners (our home is not here, it's heaven); we are called to live differently.
 - 1 Peter 1:22-23, Living Word (see John 1:1)
- **1 Peter 2:1-2** Crave pure spiritual milk....
 - Pure = Word of God
 - **What do you watch, listen to, read to be fed instead of the Scriptures?**
- **1 Peter 2:4** Living Stone – God chose Jesus that people rejected.
 - We are called to look like Him, to be like living stones. **Since Jesus is the Living Stone – the foundation our relationship is built on – how do you look like Him, like living stones?**
 - In just a few verses Peter called Jesus the LIVING
 - Hope – the future
 - Word – the past
 - Stone – the present
- **1 Peter 2:9-10** “But now...” **What is your “but now...”**
 - You are God's “special possession;” you are precious
 - When he looks at you He holds you as precious - you are created in HIS image. **What does this mean to you. Do you see yourself as God sees you?**
- **1 Peter 2:11-12** When you live the way God is asking, you may be made fun of. The same is true today. **Tell about a time you were made fun of because of your faith in Jesus.**
- **1 Peter 2:13** “Submit” – to come under someone else's authority
 - Our ACTIONS, not our words are supposed to silence foolishness around us.
 - Peter was very aware who Nero was when he said to submit to the emperor
 - Nero killed Christians very viciously
- **1 Peter 2:18** Slaves submit to masters
 - When we suffer for God it's commendable; it's a good thing for the Kingdom
 - When we suffer for God there is a blessing.
- **1 Peter 2:20-21** We are CALLED to suffer. Why? Because we are to look like Jesus and He suffered. God does not cause us to suffer but as followers there will be times when we do.
 - **Have you suffered for God? Tell about it.**
 - Compared to what Jesus went through, we should be able to make it through our suffering with His help. Embracing suffering is a sign of a Christlike life. **Do you embrace suffering?**
- **1 Peter 3:1** Written to wives, not husbands. Husbands should not make jokes about these verses or lord it over their wives.
 - In the same way...as the emperor, slaves, Jesus
 - Wives are to live their lives in a way that those husbands who do not follow Jesus may.

- It's about what you do, not what you say; so your husband can see Jesus in you.
- **1 Peter 3:7** In the same way as wives, Jesus, slaves, emperor.
 - Weaker partner = weaker vessel (physically, typically the wife is weaker)
 - Treat women as equals because they are weaker
 - So nothing hinders (chops down like a tree) your prayers.
 - Don't dominate your wife; they are to be a helper as designed in the Garden

What do you know now that you didn't know 30 years ago? (**Discuss all three of these with your group**)

- **What in your life requires you to choose embracing over complaining?**
- **Are there places in your marriage that must move from talk to action?**
- **When is the last time you considered the suffering of Jesus.**
 - **What suffering can you hand over to Him.**

Because of the suffering of Jesus, we have become heirs to the Kingdom we do not deserve.