

DEVOTED

GOING DEEPER- 1 Peter 3

Read 1 Peter 3:1-12

Peter paints the qualities of a harmonious marriage (1-7):

- Wives focused on the inward beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit; respectful; pure and willing to be led by their husbands
- Husbands sensitive to their wives needs, honouring them, treating them as co-heirs of God's grace.

Wives with non-believing husbands can win them to Christ by living this way. Husbands who live this way ensure a clear passage of prayer to God, because to those who mistreat their wives, their prayers will be hindered!

All Christians are encouraged to have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind towards one another. **The emphasis is on oneness in love and humility.**

We are to bless instead of retaliating when people harm us (9). The result of living this way is that God's eyes are on the righteous, and His ears open to their prayers! Doing good to those who harm us reflects the very nature of God.

Question: How does this passage speak directly into your relationships? Which of the mentioned qualities do you believe the Lord wants to grow in your life right now?

Prayer: Lord, shape me more into the likeness of Jesus that I might honour and love the people in my life. Reflecting your loving, gracious and humble nature to others around me.

DEVOTED

GOING DEEPER- 1 Peter 3

Read 1 Peter 3:13- 4:6

When we suffer for what is right we should know (14):

- We will be blessed.
- We need not fear or be troubled.
- We must honour Jesus in our heart as holy.

When responding to hostile questions about our faith we:

- Must always be prepared to make a defense to anyone (15)
 - Should speak with gentleness and respect (15)
- The idea is our godly life and response will put to shame our accusers (16).

Jesus suffered for our sins, when He was righteous and we were unrighteous so that he might bring us to God! He suffered in the flesh to the point of death, but was made alive in the spirit (18); and that is the call He issues to us: To be willing to suffer in order to live for the will of God and not our own human passions (4:1-2).

Question: Is there a situation where you are suffering for doing what is right? How does this passage encourage you? Is there a specific way the example of Jesus spurs you on to be willing to suffer in pursuing God's will instead of a worldly passion?

Prayer: Jesus there's so much for us to learn from You. Do a new work in our hearts. Transform us. Help us see Your will as the primary longing and pursuit of our life, and not our own worldly passions. Amen.