



A STUDY THROUGH 1 PETER

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK: (15 minutes) Spend time catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)

SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION: (50-60 minutes)

Open your Bibles to **1 Peter 3**. Have someone read verses 3-8, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy, then take a few moments to quietly reflect. Re-read each passage below and discuss the questions.

1 Peter 3:8

- Peter lists five qualities that define what it means to live in Christ-like manner. What are those qualities? Describe each in your own words. Do you think they came naturally to Peter? Do they come naturally to you?

Verse 3:9

- Peter says to repay evil with a blessing and to repay an insult with a blessing. Give an example of what you think this might “look like” in practical terms. Have you ever actually done this? If so, what was the result?
- When are you most tempted to return evil with evil and insult with insult? Why? How do you feel when you “get somebody back with a zinger?” Why do you think you feel that way?

Verses 3:10-12

- How does Peter’s quote from Psalm 34 sum up and add to all he has said in Verses 2:11 through 3:9? What are its implications regarding how we treat others and how that impacts the sort of life we enjoy?

Verses 17-18, 21-22

- It seems that Peter is implying that suffering is inevitable. The only real choice we have when it comes to suffering is whether we will suffer for doing right or doing evil. How are these two types of suffering different in your experience?
- What does Peter say about the death of Christ in 3:18? What did his death accomplish? What does he say about Christ’s resurrection in 3:21-22 and what that accomplished?

[Verses 3:19-22 can be very confusing. Dan J believes this passage is about precedent for why Christians should respond this way: *The Spirit of God himself has always worked this way. It is how he has chosen both to redeem and to judge the world - It is what God did in Jesus - It is what God did in Noah - It is what God is doing in us.*]

SURRENDER: (15 minutes)

- Work together to think about practical ways you can help one another be people who bless others and don’t fall into the insult for insult trap. Choose one of those ideas and commit to do it this next couple of weeks. Next time you can report what God has done as a result.

PRAYER: (10 min) Pray for one another in light of what has been shared.