

# A Faith that is Anchored in Christ

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3–12

Student Handout

**Less Focus:** Students will be challenged to place their faith in Jesus. The insecurities of other types of faith will be contrasted by the consistency a faith in Jesus provides.

## Introduction

What have you put your faith in? How important is it to have faith? Where can we find a faith strong enough to make it through the storms of life?

Peter knows how important faith is and he gives us a great picture of faith — a faith we can anchor deep with, and a faith which will hold us during the storms of life.

When Peter wrote this letter, things were changing. The government was becoming increasingly hostile toward Christianity. Peter is writing to a people finding it increasingly difficult to live their faith. We too live in an era that presents challenges to our faith. It is not easy being a Christian, but we must find a way to live our faith without compromise.

**Peter gives us several reasons that it is important to anchor our faith in Christ.**

### ◆ Reflection

*Where is your faith currently anchored? What do you tend to rely on during life's storms?*

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## I. Timeless Faith — 1 Peter 1:4–5

Everyone has faith. The question is: what is it in? Sooner or later, the storms of life will begin to blow — and then the question becomes: will the anchor of faith hold?

### A. Faith in Christ is Imperishable

Our faith in Christ is kept in Heaven, where nothing can destroy or corrupt it. Countless kingdoms, economies, and nations have come and gone. Only the kingdom of God has remained constant. Our faith must be set on heaven, not on the things of this world.

**Key truth:** \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Our Faith Will Be Uncorrupted

"Absolute power corrupts absolutely." History is full of leaders undone by pride or ego. Christ has no sin — He is the only person who has ever had absolute power and remained completely uncorrupted. Our faith can only be incorruptible when placed in Christ.

**Key truth:** \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Our Faith in Christ Is Unfading

Culture changes — hair styles, fashion, music, and movements all fade. Jesus and our faith in Him is the only thing that truly remains the same. His unchangeable nature has nothing to do with fads or fading conditions. Time cannot impose its will on our faith in Christ.

**Key truth:** \_\_\_\_\_

### ◆ Reflection

*In what ways have cultural trends or shifting philosophies tested your faith? How does the timeless nature of Christ give you stability?*

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## II. Tested Faith — 1 Peter 1:6–8

How do we know a faith in Christ will hold up during life's storms? Because it is no ordinary faith — it is a tested faith. Peter found a tested faith to be valuable, revealing, and centered on love.

### A. It Is Valuable (1:7)

Peter uses the image of a goldsmith who melts gold repeatedly to remove impurities, knowing the gold is pure when he can see his own reflection in it. Our faith, when tested, brings impurities to the surface — making our faith more valuable. Gold can perish; our faith in Christ will endure into eternity.

**Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

### B. It Is Revealing (1:7)

Just as the goldsmith sees his reflection in pure gold, our faith should reflect Jesus and reveal Him to others. As we grow in Christ, our lives begin to change — and those around us will see the difference. Your life becomes a reflection of the image of Christ.

**Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

### C. It Is Centered on Love for Christ (1:8)

Peter says we love Christ even though we have not seen Him. Hebrews 11:1 — "Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen." Real faith is loving a Christ we have never physically seen but know exists.

**Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

### ◆ Reflection

*How has a difficult season in your life tested and ultimately strengthened your faith? What impurities did that test reveal?*

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### III. True Faith — 1 Peter 1:10–12

In our postmodern world, we often hear: "What works for you may not work for me." But Peter points us beyond personal experience to a proven, historical, prophetic faith.

#### A. Confirmed by the Prophets (1:10)

God spoke to the prophets and told them the Messiah was coming. Their message: "Hang on. God is working and the Messiah is coming. Your deliverer is on the way." That is still God's message to us today.

**Key truth:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Built on Fulfilled Prophecy

All other religions are based on human philosophies that can be altered. Not Christianity. Our faith is built on Old Testament prophecies fulfilled in Jesus — who died on a cross for our sins, rose again, and is coming back.

**Key truth:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### ◆ Reflection

*How does knowing your faith is rooted in fulfilled prophecy and historical fact give you confidence? How can you share this with someone who doubts?*

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### Conclusion

Our faith is not built upon philosophy, intellect, or creative speculation. It is a faith which has:

- Stood the test of time
- Proven itself faithful when tested
- Remained the only true faith which holds in the storms of life

**Only a faith in Christ is true, tested, and timeless.**

#### *In Times Like These*

*For in times like these we need a Savior,  
In times like these we need an anchor.*

*Be very sure, be very sure —*

***Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!***

### Personal Response

Take a moment to reflect and respond to the message:

**One thing I want to remember from today's message:**

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**One area where I need to anchor my faith more deeply in Christ:**

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**One step I will take this week to strengthen my faith:**

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**Prayer:**

*Lord, help me to anchor my faith in You alone — not in the things of this world that will fade and perish. When the storms of life come, may my faith hold because it is rooted in the truth of who You are. Amen.*



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JCMBC 2026