Praising God for our Great Salvation

Part one, 1st Peter 1:3-5

An Exclamation of Praise

A short hymn to point us heavenward

His Great Mercy

God has acted <u>out of His abundant mercy</u>

He Has Caused It

- God did <u>the decisive work</u> in our regeneration
- Our hope is a joyful, confident expectation
- That hope <u>rose up with Jesus from the dead</u>
- We'll Inherit all the promises of God
 - It will never wear out
 - It will never spoil
 - It will endure forever
 - It is already <u>reserved for us</u>

Guarded by His Power

- God initiates, accomplishes, and sustains our salvation
- Every preparation has been made, only the final signal is awaited

For Life Group Discussion

1st Peter 1:3-5

1. Did you already know that doxologies, or short hymns of praise, are common in the NT? In addition to those mentioned, read Rom 11:33-36, 16:25-27; 1 Tim 1:17; and Heb 13:20-21 for other examples How do these relate to our modern songs of praise?

Read 1 Peter 1:3-5

- 2. When was the last time you really thought about the fact that God has been merciful towards you? What does the necessity of mercy imply? What would be your fate without God's mercy?
- 3. Peter seems to imply that God is acting alone in accomplishing our salvation. Yet popular opinion holds that we cooperate together with Him. Which position do you hold? Why?
- 4. Read Acts 2:22-33, Rom 8:31-34, and 1 Cor 15:15-22. How important was the resurrection to the Apostles? How does it affect your understanding of our faith, including the promise of heaven?
- 5. Read back through Peter's description of heaven... imperishable, undefiled, unfading. And contemplate that it is already reserved for you. Finish by reading 1 Cor 2:9 and Heb 11:14-16. Your thoughts?
- 6. Re-read 1 Pet 1:5, and react to the imagery shared in the message. "God's guiding power is like a soldier guiding and protecting his people as they make their way thru hostile territory toward the freedom of friendly lines." How does God express that power?