



Community Group Discussion Guide
"A Call to Courageous Faith in a World of Fear" – 1 Peter 3.8-18
Scott Paulson – September 13, 2026

Main thought:

Courage means standing firm in our faith while living with the love and character of Jesus.

Ice-Breaker

- Share a highlight from the Summer & something you're looking forward to this Fall.

Questions

1. What stood out to you from the message this week?
2. Where do you currently feel the greatest pressure to live courageously as a follower of Jesus? (at work, school, in your family, friendships, or in the larger culture?) What makes that situation difficult?
3. Read 1 Peter 3:8–9. Peter calls Christians to be like-minded, sympathetic, loving, compassionate, humble, and to respond to evil with blessing. Which of these is hardest for you when you feel attacked or misunderstood?
4. Two common unhealthy responses to cultural pressure are "lashing out" or "selling out". Which are you more naturally tempted toward? Why? How can we avoid both while still holding firmly to truth?
5. Read 1 Peter 3:14–15. What fears can keep us from courageously following Jesus?
6. Peter says to "revere Christ as Lord". What does this mean? Why is it so foundational?
7. What stands out to you about "being prepared" in verse 15?
8. In verse 15 Peter tells us to be ready to explain the hope we have, but to do it with "gentleness and respect". Why is *how* we communicate our faith just as important as *what* we communicate?
9. Read 1 Peter 3:17–18. Jesus is presented not only as our Savior but also as our model: He was willing to suffer in order to "bring you to God". How should that change the way we respond when following Jesus costs us something?

Prayer: Take some time to pray for each other and also for the people in our church who are courageously stepping into community this week.