

1 Peter

Lesson #5, Chapter 1:13-25

Seek the Lord's help in understanding His Word and applying it to your life.

1. Verse 13 begins with therefore. What has Peter been discussing in the previous verses that he is linking with verse 13?
2. Though you can't tell in English, in the Greek Peter emphasizes the main verb in this sentence which is *fix your hope*, while the other two participial verbs describe *how* believers are to fix their hope. Define *fix* [Strong's #1679 (ESV, NIV *set*; NKJV *rest*)] and *completely* [Strong's #5049 (ESV, NKJV, NIV *fully*)].
3. How is your understanding of verse 13 enhanced, knowing that *fix your hope* is to be emphasized above the other two commands in the sentence?
4. Define *prepare* [Strong's #328 (NKJV *gird*)]. See also Eph. 6:14; Col. 3:2. Describe what it means to "gird your mind for action."
 - a. Define *keep sober* [Strong's #3525 (NIV *be self controlled*)].
5. How would girding your mind for action and keeping sober in spirit help you to fix your hope completely on the grace to come when Jesus is revealed?

6. Where is your hope today? Is your hope fixed upon the grace to come when we shall see Jesus face to face? From what you have learned so far in 1 Peter, what are the benefits that come from fixing your hope on that soon and coming day when Jesus will be revealed as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords?

7. Verse 14 literally reads, *As children of obedience*, which has the same meaning as when we say, “He is the son of Jacob” or “They are the children of the pastor.” D. Edmond Hiebert in his commentary on 1 Peter makes the distinction, “‘Obedient children’ refers to Christian conduct, and ‘children of obedience’ designates their character.” He also states, “Their nature as ‘children of obedience’ distinguishes them from the unsaved who are ‘sons of disobedience’ (Eph. 2:2; 5:6). As a child of obedience how are you to live out your character according to verses 14-15?”

8. Define *conform* [Strong’s #4964]. See also Rom. 12:2 and Eph. 4:20-24.
 - a. Define *lust* [Strong’s #1939 (ESV *passions*; NIV *evil desires*)]. Review 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-24; Eph. 5:3-5; 1 Thess. 4:3-5.

9. What reason is given for being holy (verse 16)? How does the reason support Peter’s statement that we are children of obedience? See also Jn. 1:12; Phil. 2:15; 1 Jn. 3:1-3, 10.

10. God is telling us not to act like we did when we were unbelievers. We know better now. We are not in ignorance. How are you doing in this area? Are you growing in holiness? Are you overcoming the sins that entangled you before you were a Christian? What one area are you currently asking God to change in you so that you will be more like Christ?

To forsake sin, is to leave it without any thought reserved of returning to it again.
~William Gurnall

11. In verse 17 how does Peter describe God?

12. Since Peter is writing to believers, what kind of judgment does he have in mind here? See Rom. 2:5-10; 8:1; 14:10-12; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; 4:5; 2 Cor. 5:9-10.

13. One commentator writes, “He is looking on, taking notice of all, whether there is integrity of purpose, intelligence of mind, and desire of heart to please Him.” Knowing that, Peter urges us to consider our actions since we call God our Father. What are we to do according to verse 17?

14. What does he mean when he says conduct yourselves in fear? Deut. 10:12; Ps. 115:11, 13; 2 Cor. 7:1; Phil. 2:12; Heb. 12:28-29.

15. Peter ends this verse by writing that we are to *conduct ourselves in fear during the time of your stay upon earth* (NIV *live your lives as strangers here*). How does the shortness of life and a future “family” accounting of your life here help you to live in holiness?

16. If you weren’t already convinced to live your life with as much devotion to Christ as possible, what reasons does Peter cite in verses 18-19 for godly conduct?

17. Why has Christ appeared in these last times according to verses 20-21?

18. What command is given in verse 22?

19. What must, of necessity, come first before we can obey that command (verse 22)? Why is it necessary?

20. What do you learn in verses 23-25 that tells you it is possible to obey the command of verse 22? See also Col. 1:3-8 and 1 Thess. 2:13.

21. In verses 22-25 Peter attests to the steadfastness of the word of God in contrast to the world in which we live. He ends by saying, "And this is the word which was preached to you." This life changing word was preached to you and is now at work in you so that you can love others. The word of God is an anchor for your soul; it is a hammer to break up the stony ground of your heart; it is a comfort in times of trouble; and it is at work in you so that you will be like Christ. If you find you are having trouble loving others what do you need more of? Why? See 2 Tim. 3:16-17 and Heb. 4:12.

The Christian is bred by the Word, and he must be fed by it. ~William Gurnall

22. Throughout Chapter 1, Peter explains that our salvation should be a motivation for a changed life. Review the chapter and take note of the actions we are to engage in as a result of salvation. Is there anything you need to work on? How will remembering your salvation help you to obey in these areas?