

Week Two
Chosen Exiles: Hope for a Scattered People
Studies in 1 Peter for the White Station Church of Christ

These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into 1 Peter 1:3-12.

Video 1 – Hope Is a Person

1. Why would the “chosen exiles” to whom Peter was writing need to hear about *hope*? Why make that the first topic to be addressed in this letter?
2. What is the meaning of this statement: “*Hope plays the long game*”? Explain hope in relation to *faith* and *love*. Why are all three so important to Christians? Cf. 1 Cor 13:13.
3. What definition for hope is given in the video? Can you improve and expand it a bit?
4. How is our hope (tied to the future) grounded in an event of the past? What event? Explain.
5. What element of our future hope in Christ is most precious to you?

Video 2 – No Bad Thing Is Final

1. Read Paul’s claims about the resurrection from 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Would Peter agree with his fellow apostle’s statement? Explain.
2. How prepared were the apostles for the events of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection? How did they react to the events of Friday?
3. How did Peter describe the “inheritance” awaiting those who know Christ – even if they have to suffer for their faith?
4. Why do you think Peter used only *negative* terms in describing the Christian inheritance?
5. What do you understand by this language at v.5: “ready to be revealed in the last time”?

Video 3 – Living Patiently as God’s People

1. From v.6, do you think it is unreasonable for Peter to urge people to “rejoice” during times of trial and suffering for their faith? *Be sure to read Acts 5:41.*
2. From v.7, how do various trials provide the opportunity to prove (both to oneself and to others) that her or his faith is “genuine”?
3. Did you catch the distinction Rubel made between the words *joy* and *happiness*? Do you agree with that distinction? If so, which is more valuable?
4. Do you know people who have begun to feel hopeless over events of the past six months? Have you made concessions to negative thoughts? How is Christian *hope* supposed to keep us from falling into the pit of despair?
5. Read these verses about *patience* in dark times: Hebrews 6:9-15 and James 5:7-11. What does the term *patience* mean when used in Scripture? How are you demonstrating patience with what is going on in our world right now?