

1. Motivate

When have you been glad you didn't give up?

2. Transition

An introduction video is available. View it at https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/0_y9c29pcz

We hope we can finish ... hoping for good health, sufficient funds, the right connections.

- But only hope in Christ is sure and certain.

3. Bible Study

3.1 Hope Based on Jesus' Redemptive Work

Listen for reasons to praise God.

1 Peter 1:1-3 (NIV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

To whom did Peter address his letter?

How had Peter's readers been chosen?

According to Peter, what moved God to act on our behalf?

What became available to the believers through the Lord Jesus Christ?

What are some things people in our culture hope for?

On what do we base these kinds of hopefulness?

How does basing your hope on these kinds of things often disappoint?

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The Basis of Our Hope

Peter talks about a “living hope.” What do you think he meant by this phrase? How is it “living?”

How do we demonstrate this living hope on a day to day basis?

3.2 Hope Secure for Eternity

Listen for a promised inheritance.

1 Peter 1:4-5 (NIV) and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

What are words and phrases that Peter uses to describe our spiritual inheritance?

On what basis can believers know they are secure?

What is the place of faith in our spiritual security?

Peter said that his readers would be protected or shielded by God's power. If so why did they end up experiencing persecution?

You or someone you know have probably experienced suffering of one sort or another within the last year. What are practical ways believers can manage suffering?

3.3 Hope Displayed through Faith

Listen for hope, even though you suffer.

1 Peter 1:6-9 (NIV) In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Peter talks of suffering grief in all kinds of trials . What kinds of trials do you imagine these folks had?

In what wrong ways can we react to these kinds and other troubles in our lives?

What reasons does Peter give that we have these experiences?

Notice the comments of verses 8 and 9 ... note the contrast

Even though ...	Still ...

How would clinging to this promise and perspective influence your outlook on daily living and your hope?

Application

Recognize.

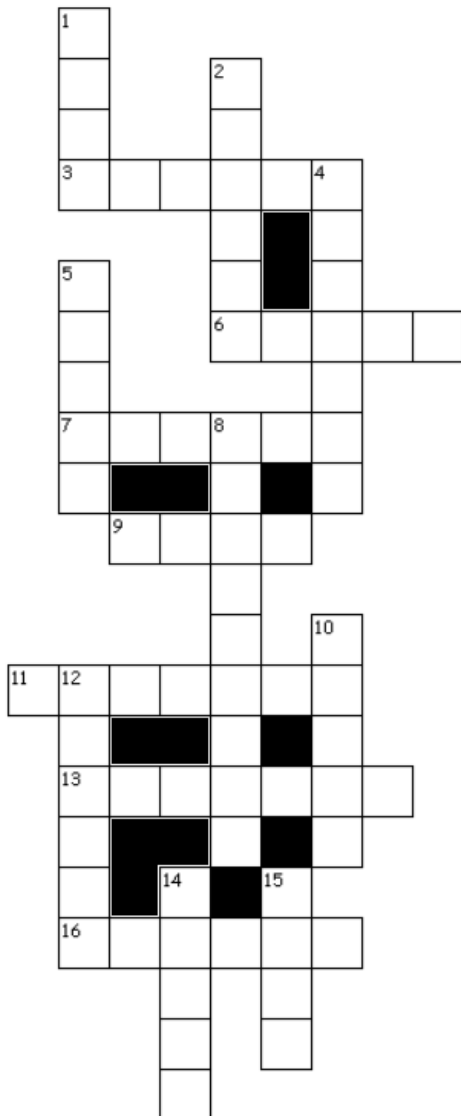
- Admit to God the areas where you're losing hope.
- Confess any sin and ask Him to open your eyes to the reality of living hope in Christ.

Remember.

- Read through 1 Peter 1:1-9 again and make a list of how Peter described those who follow and trust in Christ.
- Place this list in a prominent place to remind you of who you are in Christ.

Restore.

- Is there someone the Lord has brought to your mind who is losing hope?
- Take time to meet or call them this week and share the truths the Lord has shown you in this study.



Crossword Puzzle
Clues and words taken from
1 Peter 1:1 - 9 (NIV)

Across

- 3. new birth into a __?__ hope
- 6. the salvation of your __?__
- 7. __?__ according to God's foreknowledge
- 9. greater worth than __?__
- 11. Peter, an __?__ of Jesus
- 13. in this you greatly __?__
- 16. kept in __?__ for you

Down

- 1. you are receiving the __?__ for your faith
- 2. grief in all kinds of __?__
- 4. may be proved __?__
- 5. to God's __?__
- 8. __?__ ready to be revealed
- 10. grace and __?__ be yours
- 12. an inheritance that can never __?__
- 14. through __?__ are shielded
- 15. though you have not __?__ Him



For more
Family Activities

