

JESUS - Our Living Hope

A Study of the Book of 1st Peter

Lesson Four

Gold River Calvary Chapel

Women's Bible Fellowship

Fall 2021



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Summary: *This week we will learn about the beauty of good works and godly submission.*

Step One: Read the Word

“In Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:3

This study uses the Christian Standard Bible translation (CSB), which is provided for you in each lesson in Step One. Please use that version to fill in blanks or answer questions, but you are encouraged to read as many translations as you like in order to get a fuller understanding of the scripture.

In Step One, try to determine the “who, what, where, when or how” of the passage. Look for words that are repeated often, such as “beloved”, “suffering,” “good works” or “chosen.” Circle any key words and underline phrases that stick out to you. Use the column to the right to jot down any notes, scripture references, or questions you might have.

Note: There is an example of how to do Step One in the Introduction to this study. You can also use the “Bible Study Aids” included in the Introduction to gain more understanding of the passage of scripture.

Remember to always pray before you read God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to open the scripture to your understanding.

Complete Step One by reading and marking up 1 Peter 2:11 – 3:7, below.

<p>1 Peter 2:11-3:7 Christian Standard Bible A Call to Good Works</p> <p>¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul.</p> <p>¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.</p> <p>¹³ Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority ¹⁴ or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good. ¹⁵ For it is God’s will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. ¹⁶ Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God’s slaves. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brothers and sisters. Fear God. Honor the emperor.</p>	
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Submission of Slaves to Masters

¹⁸ Household slaves, submit to your masters with all reverence not only to the good and gentle ones but also to the cruel. ¹⁹ For it brings favor if, because of a consciousness of God, someone endures grief from suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is there if when you do wrong and are beaten, you endure it? But when you do what is good and suffer, if you endure it, this brings favor with God.

²¹ For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² He did not commit sin, **and no deceit was found in his mouth;** ²³ when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed.**

²⁵ For you **were like sheep going astray**, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Wives and Husbands

3 In the same way, wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, even if some disobey the word, they may be won over without a word by the way their wives live ² when they observe your pure, reverent lives. ³ Don't let your beauty consist of outward things like elaborate hairstyles and wearing gold jewelry or fine clothes, ⁴ but rather what is inside the heart—the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. ⁵ For in the past, the holy women who put their hope in God also adorned themselves in this way, submitting to their own husbands, ⁶ just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. You have become her children when you do what is good and do not fear any intimidation.

⁷ Husbands, in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a

weaker partner, showing them honor as coheirs of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.	
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Step 2: Consider the Word

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” Colossians 3:16

Re-read 1 Peter 2: 11-3:7 and answer the questions below. (Remember to use the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) translation provided in Step One to answer).

1. See verse 11. Why should Christians abstain from sinful desires? What damage could they cause?

2. Verse 12.
 - a. Notice that Peter fully expects that Christians will be slandered as evildoers when they see their good works. Give some examples of how Christians today are slandered for their good works.

 - b. What will those who slander you understand about your good works when Jesus returns? Who gets the glory?

3. See Verses 13-16 (see also Romans 13:1-7):
- a. Why should Christians submit to human authority? Who established that authority? Is that true even if you didn't vote for those in power?

 - b. Look up 1 Timothy 2:1-2. What should we *proactively* do for those in authority over us? What will be the result?

 - c. Peter tells us in verse 15 that God's will is that foolish people will be silenced by Christians doing good by submitting to human authority as established by God. What are some of the good things that Christians can do today by obeying the government? (See also Romans 13:6-7)

 - d. See Acts 4:18-20. Under what circumstances did Peter not submit to human authority? Would that same exception be true for believers today?

4. See verses 18-25. Peter is addressing those in slavery, which was common practice in his time under the cruel and iron rule of Rome. Praise God that slavery has been abolished in our country! However, we can still apply the principles of submission in these verses to our places of employment.
 - a. What is the result of suffering unjustly in your place of employment according to verse 20?
 - b. According to verse 21, who is our example and what did he do when unjustly treated that we are to imitate? Who did he rely on to be the final and just judge?
 - c. See verses 24-25. What good was done for every believer by Jesus going to the cross?
5. See Chapter 3, verses 1-6.
 - a. Peter is addressing the submission of wives to their husbands. He begins verse 1 with “in the same way.” Look back at Chapter 2, verse 13. Since marriage is ordained by God, what is the foremost reason for wives to submit to their husbands?

b. What does Peter say will speak louder than words to husbands, even those who disobey God's word? (Verses 1-2)

c. What beauty never fades? (Verse 4). Why do you think this of "great worth in God's sight?" Do you think there is wisdom here for unmarried women as well?

d. Peter uses Sarah, Abraham's wife, as an example for Christian wives. We know from reading the account of their lives in Genesis that Abraham was not a perfect husband. Yet, according to verse 5, who did Sarah really trust in when she submitted to Abraham?

e. Can you think of a situation(s) where a wife would not be bound to submit to her husband? Explain below.

6. See verse 7.

a. What does Verse 7 tell us about how husbands are to treat their wives?

- b. What could be the negative consequence of husbands not treating their wives in a godly manner?
 - c. What does Ephesians 5:25 tell us about who husbands are to exemplify in their treatment of their wives?
 - d. Peter instructs husbands that they are to treat their wives with honor. Why?
 - e. What does this tell you about the difference between wives and husbands fulfilling their God-given roles in marriage versus treating their spouse as inferior or superior?
7. a. In your own words, what do you think godly submission looks like in a life? In a marriage?

b. Look up Colossians 3:14 and Colossians 3:23. How might these verses help us to submit to any human authority that God has ordained, whether the government, employers, or husbands?

c. Look up Ephesians 5:21. What should our attitude be generally to other Christians? What role does humility play in our ability to obey God in this regard?

Memory Verse: “¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brothers and sisters. Fear God. Honor the emperor.” (1 Peter 2:17)

Write the memory verse down below:

Step 3: Walk in the Word

“...As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philippians 1:27

Re-read 1 Peter 2:11-3:7 and answer the questions below:

1. See verse 12. Have you ever been slandered by unbelievers and called an “evildoer” for your godly actions? Explain. Does this passage give you hope that God will not only justify you but that those who call you evil will glorify God for those good works when Jesus returns?

2.
 - a. See verses 13-17. Which law(s) or governing authorities do you have the most trouble obeying? Why?

 - b. Does knowing that God established that authority (and can remove it in his timing and will) change how you view your personal submission to these laws and/or authorities?

c. Does the knowledge that God is sovereign over all human authorities change your prayer life? How?

3. See verses 18-25.

a. How do you react when unjustly treated by those in authority over you?

b. Does the example Peter gives of Jesus' own response to unjust treatment give you hope that you also can entrust yourself to the One who judges justly? How could that hope and understanding change your response even if your situation doesn't change?

4. See Chapter 3, verses 1-7.

a. Regardless of whether you are married, why do you think it is difficult in your own heart to submit to those God has placed in authority over you? How might knowing it is God himself you are really submitting to make it easier?

b. Can you think of an example when your godly *behavior* actually won someone over - “without a word” from you - even if they were not obeying Christ? If so, share below.

c. What are some practical ways you can adorn yourself with the beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit?

Write the memory verse below:

**“17 Honor _____ . Love the _____ and
_____. Fear _____. Honor the
_____.” (1 Peter 2:17)**

What lesson or truth meant the most to you this week?

Journal a prayer below, thanking God for that truth.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

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Page 19