

1 Peter: A Living Hope (3 of 8)
“Find and Follow”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 19, 2023

Big Idea: Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the trials of life.

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. **1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

In Light Of God’s Great Mercy:

1. Will You Choose To Accept Or Reject God’s Invitation Of Salvation?

You are **coming** to Christ, who is the **living cornerstone** of God’s temple. He was **rejected** by people, but He was **chosen** by God for great honor. And **you** are **living stones** that God is building into His **spiritual temple**. What’s more, you are His **holy priests**. Through the **mediation of Jesus Christ**, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. As the Scriptures say, “I am placing a **cornerstone** in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and **anyone who trusts in Him will never be disgraced.**” Yes, you who **trust** Him recognize the honor God has given Him. But for those who **reject** Him, “The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.” And, “He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall.” **They stumble because they do not obey God’s word**, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

1 Peter 2:4-8 (NLT2)

For God so loved the world that he **gave** his one and only Son, that **whoever believes** in him shall **not perish but have eternal life**. For God did not send his Son into the world to **condemn** the world, but to **save** the world through him. Whoever **believes** in him is not condemned, but whoever **does not believe** stands condemned already **because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son**. This is the verdict: **Light** has come into the world, but men **loved darkness** instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for **fear that his deeds will be exposed**. But whoever lives by the truth **comes into the light**, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been **done through God**.

John 3:16-21 (NIV)

That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

Notes: _____

2. Will You Accept God's Call To Be A Disciple Maker?

But you are not like that, for you are a **chosen people**. You are **royal priests**, a **holy nation**, God's very own possession. As a result, **you can show others the goodness of God**, for **He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light**. "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have **received God's mercy**."

1 Peter 2:9-10 (NLT2)

We are therefore Christ's **ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. **2 Corinthians 5:20-21 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. Will You Choose To Live Your Life In A Manner Worthy Of God's Mercy?

Dear friends, I warn you as "**temporary residents** and foreigners" to **keep away from worldly desires** that wage war against your very souls. Be careful to **live properly** among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your **honorable behavior**, and they will **give honor to God** when he judges the world. **1 Peter 2:11-12 (NLT2)**

Peter said, "**Repent**, then, and **turn to God**, so that your sins may be wiped out, that **times of refreshing** may come from the Lord." **Acts 3:19 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

Considering God's great mercy, what will you choose today?

- ✓ **Accept Jesus?**
- ✓ **Be A Disciple Maker?**
- ✓ **Live In A Manner Worthy Of Jesus?**

My next right step:

[] I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

[] I will invite someone this week to church.

[] I will get baptized as a believer in Jesus on March 26.

1 Peter: A Living Hope (3 of 8)
“Find and Follow”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 19, 2023



[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Big Idea: Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the trials of life.

Open your group with a prayer.

Icebreaker:

What type of home improvements have you been a part of?

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. **1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

In Light Of God’s Great Mercy:

1. Will You Choose To Accept Or Reject God’s Invitation Of Salvation?

Read 1 Peter 2:4-8

What process is God undertaking in the lives of believers?

What does it mean for you to be part of this “Spiritual House”?

In what ways is Christ a stone that causes men to stumble?

Life Application Study Bible Commentary: 2:6-8 No doubt Peter often thought of Jesus' words to him right after he confessed that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God": "You are Peter... and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it" (Matthew 16:16, 18). What is the stone that really counts in the building of the church? Peter answers: Christ himself. Jesus Christ is called "the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall." Some will stumble over Christ because they reject him or refuse to believe that he is who he says he is. But Psalm 118:22 says that "the stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone," the most important part of God's building, the church. People who refuse to believe in Christ have made the greatest mistake of their lives. They have stumbled over the one person who could save them and give meaning to their lives, and they have fallen into God's hands for judgment.

Read John 3:16-21 (NIV)

What happens to people who receive Jesus as their Savior?

What happens when they reject him?

2. Will You Accept God's Call To Be A Disciple Maker?

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10

By what various names does Peter call Christians in this passage?

In what dark rooms has God turned on the light?

How does verse 10 put everything into perspective?

Life Application Study Bible Commentary: 2:9 Christians sometimes speak of "the priesthood of all believers." In Old Testament times, people did not approach God directly. A priest acted as intermediary between God and sinful human beings. With Christ's victory on the cross, that pattern changed. Now we can come directly into God's presence without fear (Hebrews 4:16), and we are given the responsibility of bringing others to him also (2 Corinthians 5:18-21). When we are united with Christ as members of his body, we join in his priestly work of reconciling God and people.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

What are we called to do? Why?

3. Will You Choose To Live Your Life In A Manner Worthy Of God's Mercy?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12

Where do you find it the most challenging to live out your faith?

What is something that you just need to keep away from?

Read Acts 3:19

Where do you need God to refresh your life?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

Snack schedule:
