

CALLED TO BE DIFFERENT

Teaching Series
from
1 Peter



Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 8 January 2023

1. What struck you most from the teaching on Sunday?
2. How does it help knowing something of Peter's life story when we come to read his pastoral letter?
3. Please read **John 21.15-17**. How does this passage help us understand Peter's purpose in writing to the scattered flock of Christians?

Please read 1 Peter 1.1-9

4. With reference to v1, in what sense are these gentile Christians, scattered across Turkey, like the Old Testament 'exiles' (read also Hebrews 11.13-16)?
5. In v 2, how are each member of the Trinity involved in the lives of these 'exiles'?
6. Referring to v3-4, why is God's mercy the starting point for our new relationship with God?

"Other hopes fade like withering flowers. The hopes of the rich, the boasts of the proud, all these will die out as a candle when it flickers in the socket. There is no unwaning hope beneath the changeful moon: the only imperishable hope is that which climbs above the stars and fixes itself upon the throne of God and the person of Jesus Christ." (Spurgeon)

7. Why is the Christian hope a 'Living hope'?

Peter knows that the pressure on these Christians to be just like the world around them is great (as it is for us). He also knows that some of these Christians are suffering for their faith. With this in mind, his pastoral priority is to help them to reflect on their identity as God's Children: chosen by the Father; indwelt and sanctified by the Spirit; made righteous by the death and resurrection of the Son; given a new birth into a living hope for life and eternity; and guaranteed a future inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade with God in the new creation.

This is the glorious reality for every child of God – scattered all over Turkey (and all over the world today)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

8. Take time in your group to praise God for who we are in Christ - and for our living hope.
9. Referring to v6-8, and John 15.18-21 and Romans 8.28-29, why does God allow his people to experience grief in all kinds of trials and tough times, and what is he doing to help us in the midst of these seasons of suffering?

1 Corinthians 13.12 *For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.*