

Standing Firm: study of 1 Peter
How to Deal with Difficulties
1 Peter 1:13-2:3
October 8, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

1. Fix our hope on our future reward.

¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 1 Peter 1:13

QUESTION: ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REWARD JESUS IS BRINGING?

2. Be holy because that Who I am.

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” 1 Peter 1:14-16

◆ Hagios (hä’-gē-os): set apart; to be placed in a different realm; pure

QUESTION: AM I ALLOWING THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ME TO EFFECT ME THE MOST OR AM I ONLY CONCERNED WITH WHAT GOD THINKS?

3. Live as a traveler because Jesus has changed our destination.

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. 1 Peter 1:17-21

QUESTION: AM I LIVING LIKE A TEMPORARY RESIDENT OR AM I TRYING TO FIT IN?

4. Love another deeply because I’ve been transformed by Truth.

²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you. ¹ Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 1 Peter 1:22 - 2:1

QUESTION: WHO DO I KNOW THAT HAS A REAL NEED?

5. Crave God’s Word because it’s essential for maturing our new life.

² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:2-3

QUESTION: AM I SPENDING QUALITY TIME WITH GOD IN THE WORD AND LETTING THE HOLY SPIRIT FEED MY SPIRIT?

Discussion Questions

1. What’s something Pastor Shawn said that keeps replaying in your mind?
2. What were the five (5) commands Pastor outlined in 1 Peter 1:13-2:3. Which one(s) do you need to work on most? Which one(s) would help you deal with difficulties in your life? Why? Be specific.
3. Why do you think it’s so easy to start looking like the rest of the world?
4. What are some of the most obvious ways you’re different from the world?
5. What are three (3) areas you most often find yourself trying to fit in?
6. What’s one way you know God is asking you to be different?
7. Share with your Group at least one thing you’re either going to stop doing or start doing so you can live differently. Ask your Group to pray for you.