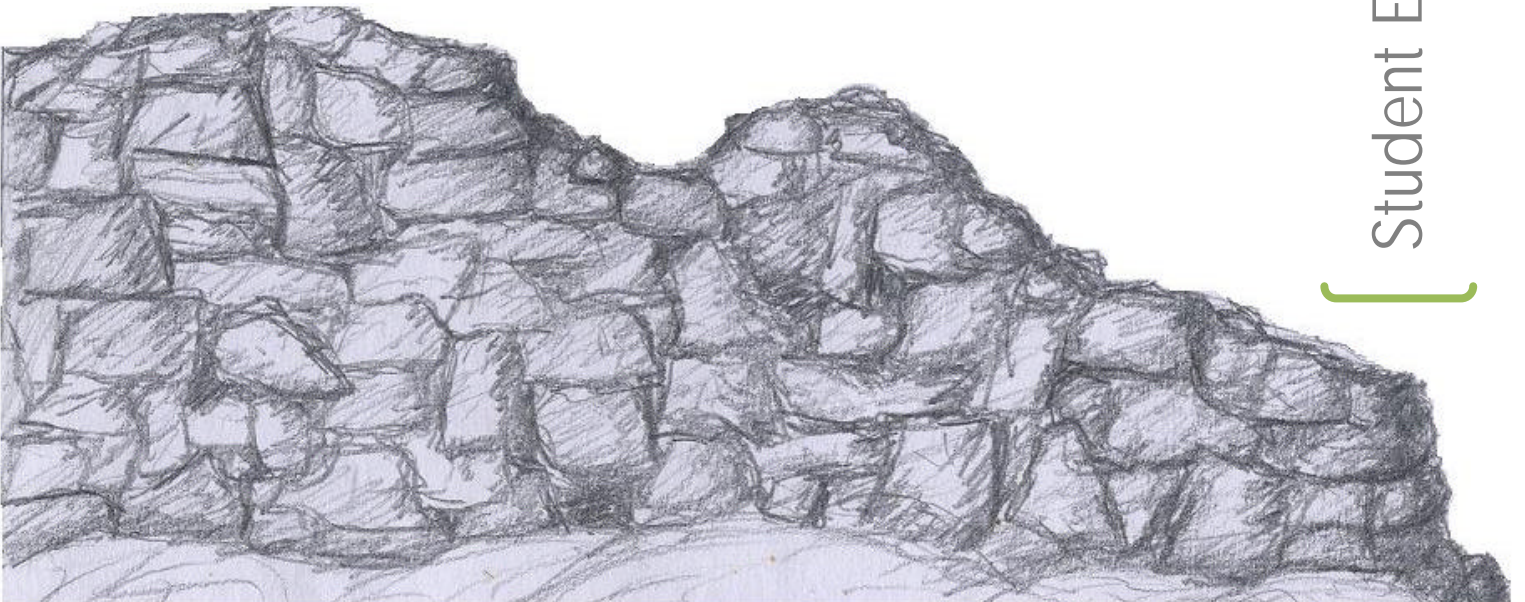


1 Peter

What will you build your life on?

[Student Edition]



Hoping For

Lesson 1

We are all guilty of using hope in a hands off kind of way. "I hope they pick me", "I hope I don't screw this up", "I hope she says yes when I ask her out", "I hope he likes me", "I hope my parents buy me this", "I sure hope He hears my prayer" and I can go on and on with the things we hope for in our lives. But, when we use the word hope like this it doesn't sound for certain. There is hesitation in our minds about what we are hoping to get. It is often more of a saying then an action or something that we actually do.

When the word "hope" is used in the Bible it is for certain. When people from Jesus' time said "I sure hope he hears my prayers", they believed then that He did. In the next several weeks we want you to engage in this "new hope." We want you to start thinking more positive about the things you need and do your part to get them. As Christians we are called to bring hope to this world and it can't be pretend hope or maybe hope – Who wants that? People want to know that there is hope in this world that is for certain and we can give that to them through our faith in Jesus. We may not all get what we want but Jesus is for sure the hope of this world that people need to enter heaven.

What are some things you have hoped for in the past?

What are some things you hope for right now?

1 Peter 1:1-2

What makes all these people that are scattered throughout these areas be God's elect?

What does it take for us to be God's elect throughout our area?

1 Peter 1:3-4

Where does our living hope come from?

What is kept in heaven for us when we believe in Jesus?

What are we born into because of our faith in Jesus?

What are things in our lives that will fade away or spoil?

What are things you have to keep on buying or renewing because they get worn out or broken?

What will never fade away when you accept to follow Jesus in your life?

1 Peter 1:5

What are we shielded by in our lives?

What are things in your life that shield you from getting hurt?

What do football pads, baseball helmet, seat belts, and sun block have in common?

Can these things sometimes fail you or break?

Is there anything that can save you from death?

1 Peter 6-7

What are some things you have been born into?

Is there anything you wish you were born into this life with?

What do we greatly rejoice in? Why?

What are some things people have to suffer through in life?

What are some trials you have faced in life?

What do you do to get through those sufferings and trials in life?

What do trials and sufferings cause us to do at times?

What does this section tell us to do when we go through tough times in our lives?

What are some things you wish you would not have to deal with as a teenager?

What do you think can help you deal with those things that go on your life?

How does your small group help you deal with the ordinary problems you have?

1 Peter 8-9

What are they filled with and why?

What challenges your faith on a daily basis?

Does it help to know because of your faith in Christ you are born into a hope that will never go away?

Put 1 Peter into Action

What can you do to carry this hope in your daily life?

What can you do to let people know you have a hope that is for certain and not fake?

What can your small group do to help you carry on this hope in your life?

Take time to pray as a group and thank God for being born into a hope that will never leave us.



The Keys – Lesson One

- What does our living hope come from? The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.
- What can save us from death? God's power through His Son Jesus who became our sacrifice to eternal life
- What should we do during tough times? stay faithful and genuine to God through tough times so we remain obedient to God

Built Into Hope

Lesson 2

In lesson 1, we talked about living life with more certainty in the things we hope for. This week is about having a hope that is built into God's family. Each and every one of us is part of God's family and that can help build hope into our lives and the people we encounter. I have to be honest, I love to build stuff around my house but I can't do it alone because I am not an expert on home remodeling. When my wife and I first moved into our home there was a lot to be done and we would not have been able to complete a lot of the remodeling without help. We were "hoping" for help and our friends and family came through for us. In our lives we need to be hopeful for the support systems we build around ourselves. We need to be building friends around ourselves that we can count on and we need to have a faith system that we can count on.

Who is your major support system right now?

How did you build that support system?

What does this support system do for you and how can you trust it?

1 Peter 2:4-5

Who is the Living Stone Peter is talking about?

Why does he say men rejected Jesus and God chose Him?

How are Christians like living stones?

1 Corinthians 3:10-17

What are we to build our lives upon?

What should we not build our lives upon?

What are some spiritual sacrifices you can offer to God?

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

What part do you think you can play in being a part of God's temple?

Is anyone better than anyone else in God's temple?

How should we act toward one another?

Do you think your small group helps each other like this passage says we should?

Do you think your friends care for you like this passage?

Do you think your family cares for you like this passage?

How can you help to be a better part of this God's body?

1 Peter 2:6-8

Who is the stone the builders rejected and why did they reject Him?

What are other things people put their faith in other than Jesus?

1 Peter 2:11-12

Why does Peter encourage his readers to abstain from sinful desires?

What are some things that you do that probably set a bad example to your friends or family?

Why do we try to build our lives on our popularity, our profession, how much money we make, how we look etc. than on the foundation of Christ?

1 Peter 2:21-24

How did Jesus endure persecution and pressure from other people?

When you are being tempted or judged by others or being persecuted for building your life upon Jesus how do you stay faithful?

Put 1 Peter into Action

What are ways you can start building a better foundation in Christ into your life?

How can your small group help to build this foundation?

What are some things you need to get rid of to build a better foundation of God in your life?

How can you show people you have built your life on Christ?

Who do you need to show the most about your foundation in Christ?

When is it the hardest time to build your life upon Jesus: as a child, teenager or adult? Why?

When is the best time to build your life upon Jesus?

Write down at least 5 things you think are key to having a foundation in Christ?



The Keys – Lesson Two

- Who is the Living Stone and why was he rejected? Jesus. He was rejected by Israel because they did not believe He was the Messiah. They put their faith in other things and did not accept Jesus as God's Son that was to save the world.
- Who should we build our lives upon? Jesus
- How should we endure persecution? Remember what Jesus did for you and use Him as your example

Pray in your group that you have people around you that can support you in your life with Christ.

Bringing Hope

Lesson 3

Does anyone remember the movie Bring It On? I am embarrassed to say that I actually have seen parts of it. It is a movie about cheerleaders competing against one another. It is the lamest movie I have ever seen. But, I do like the title and the aggressiveness of "Bring It On." So many of us have said this before playing basketball, playing a video game or you may have even said this to someone in an argument. Whatever the situation was, we are intentionally engaging someone into a battle.

Over the last several weeks we have talked about hope. We have talked about being born into hope through Jesus and we all have hope for this life because we built our lives upon Jesus. We have a certainty through Jesus that no one can take away from us, therefore "Bring it on!" Which leads us into this weeks' hope: Hope that we need to bring to this world.

When have you said, "Bring it on?"

Who in your life do you think you need to bring hope to?

What is the best way to bring someone hope?

1 Peter 3:13-14

Who or what is your biggest adversary in bringing hope to people?

What does Peter say to do if someone may harm you for bringing hope to people?

What is your biggest fear?

What is your biggest fear in bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to people's lives?

What is the best way to conquer your fears?

1 Peter 3:15-16

Why should we set apart Christ in our hearts?

What are we to be prepared to do?

How would you answer someone right now if they asked you where you find hope in your life?

How do you keep a clear conscience when people are speaking maliciously against you and Jesus?

How do you bring the hope in Jesus' life to people who don't want it?

1 Peter 4:1-2

What are we to arm ourselves with?

Philippians 2:1-11

Write down the different characteristics of Jesus we are to have:

How do you bring these characteristics to people?

1 Peter 4:7

What are we supposed to be doing to bringing people the hope of Jesus?

1 Peter 4:8-11

How should we be treating each other?

How should we be hospitable?

Is it hard for you to be nice when your parents ask you to do something?

How should we serve?

From this section how can we bring hope to people?

Give an example for each of these attributes: Love, Hospitable, Servant

1 Peter 12-17

What should we not be surprised about when we try to bring hope to people through Jesus Christ?

If you are insulted in the name of Jesus then you are _____.

If you suffer as a Christian, _____, but praise God that you bear that name.

Put 1 Peter into Action

What are going to be the ways you bring hope to your friends?

What are going to be the ways you bring hope to your family?

What are going to be the ways you bring hope to your small group?

What are going to be the ways you bring hope to your school?

Take time in your group to exchange e-mails, phone #'s etc. to stay connected throughout the summer.

Pick a date to get together over the summer

Who is going to CIY, Know Sweat, New York, Czech, Jr. High VBS etc.



The Keys – Lesson Three

- How should we respond to somebody who comes against us for doing good? We should not be frightened. We should not fear what they fear.
- How should we arm ourselves? With the attitude of Jesus Christ and by living unselfishly
- What three attributes should we treat fellow believers with? Love, Hospitality, and willingness to serve

Pray as a group before you leave.