

Be Ready
1 Peter 3:14-15

Warm Up

Can you remember the first time you shared the gospel? How did it go? How did you feel?

Can you remember the person who shared the gospel with you? What was it like?

Background and context

The book of 1 Peter, although quite short, is packed with different themes. Peter was writing to both Jewish and Gentile Christians in Asia Minor. One key theme is that we are exiles living in a strange land, that our true home is God's Kingdom. Peter encourages his readers to live as exiles and not adopt the values and practices of the world. Another theme is hope. The church was under pressure and facing some persecution and Peter reminds his readers that they have hope in Jesus, that He has overcome those who challenge Him. Peter wants his readers to know they can share this hope and reveal God's grace and glory to others.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



READ 1 Peter 3:8-22. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. Scan through the passage and pick out words and phrases that indicate how a Christian should live in the world.
2. Are there clues in the passage that point to how a Christian life may be received by others?
3. **Read 1 Peter 1:3-6.** What has the Lord Jesus given us? Why does this give us hope?
4. Why were these early believers being asked about the hope they have?
5. When people see you dealing with adversity courageously, have they ever asked about the hope you have? What was your answer?
6. **Read v18-22:** This is Peter's account of the gospel. What would happen if you shared these words with your neighbour today?
7. We know we have a living hope in Jesus. How do we put this into simple words for others? Does contemporizing the gospel, water it down?
8. **In v 15** it speaks of using **gentleness and respect** as we share the gospel. What does this look like for you?
9. Can you recall times when 'The Church' has not used **gentleness and respect**. What was the outcome?

Discipleship and Application



10. Have you practised sharing the gospel with others? What would you include as 3 key points to get across? If time have a go at sharing within your group.



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.