



We're continuing our summer series in 1 Peter, exploring how to live faithfully in a world that feels increasingly unfamiliar. In 1 Peter 1:13–21, Peter moves from what we believe to how we should live. He urges us to stay alert, live holy lives, and respond to God's grace with reverence. Our actions matter—not to earn salvation, but to reflect the One who saved us. This passage reminds us that our identity and behavior should be shaped by the character of Christ.

Key Passage: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Discussion Questions:

1. What does Peter instruct believers to do in verse 13?

Peter calls us to prepare our minds for action, to be clear-headed, and to fix our hope entirely on the grace that's coming when Christ returns. The call to prepare our minds for action means clearing away anything that slows us down spiritually so we can stay focused. It's a call to live with spiritual readiness, anchored in the hope we have in Jesus.

2. What does it mean to be "holy" as God is holy (v. 16)?

To be holy means being set apart for God—living in a way that reflects His character rather than the values of the world. Peter makes it clear that holiness isn't optional; it's a calling rooted in God. Peter is urging believers to pursue personal purity in every area of life.

3. How can you prepare your mind for action in your daily life as a Christian?

Preparing your mind means intentionally filling it with God's Word, staying prayerful, and choosing thoughts that honor Him. This kind of focus requires self-control and a willingness to resist the distractions that draw us away from what truly matters. Living with spiritual clarity is a daily decision.

4. How does Peter contrast former ignorance with holy conduct (vv. 14–15)?

Peter describes our former ignorance as a time when we were shaped by selfish desires and disconnected from God's truth. Our former ignorance was a kind of spiritual darkness—life without the light of God's truth. But now, because of God's grace, we've been transformed, and that change should show up in both how we live and who we are.

5. Why is it significant that Peter mentions believers were ransomed with the blood of Christ (vv. 18–19)?

Peter reminds us that we weren't redeemed with silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ—showing just how costly and personal our salvation really is. In light of that, we're called to live with reverence, gratitude, and obedient hearts.

6. If you were to write a personal mission statement based on this passage, what would it include?

A personal mission shaped by this passage would include staying mentally focused, living with hope, and pursuing holiness out of deep reverence for God. Our lives are meant to be lived in obedience and anticipation as someone deeply loved, redeemed, and ready for Christ's return.

7. What role does reverent fear play in the believer's life, according to verse 17?

Peter reminds us that because God is an impartial judge, we're to live with reverent fear—not out of terror, but out of awe for His holiness and authority. Dr. John MacArthur explains this kind of fear as a deep, steady reverence that keeps us from growing complacent. It's a way of living that takes God's call to holiness seriously because we know He takes sin seriously.

8. How might remembering the cost of your redemption influence how you handle temptation?

When you remember that Christ gave His life to free you from sin, it changes how you face temptation—you're not just saying no to sin; you're saying yes to the One who died for you. This kind of awareness stirs up a hatred for sin and a love for righteousness, along with a desire to please God—the One who saved you.

9. What connections do you see between hope, holiness, and reverence in this passage?

Hope fixes our eyes on the future grace of God, holiness shapes how we live right now, and reverence keeps our hearts humble before Him. Together, these form a complete response to the gospel, calling us to live today in light of eternity.

10. In what ways does this passage challenge cultural values around identity and freedom?

While our culture defines freedom as doing whatever we want, Peter shows us that true freedom is found in living under God's authority. Dr. John MacArthur reminds us that our identity isn't something we create—it's something we receive through Christ's redemption. Real freedom comes not from self-expression but from surrendering to the God who made us and knows what's best for us.