



## **1 Peter Building Our Faith**

Session 3

Peter has the foundation in place and the structure of the building starts ascending. Peter encourages the believer to press on to maturity in Christ. The church at that time entered a dark period of suffering that would only grow stronger faith as the persecution widened through the Roman world. He would remind his reader then and for us today that Christianity wasn't for the weak at heart.

Read 1 Peter 2:1-3 (Spiritual Milk)

We find Peter more concerned with helping the believer to endure trials rather than explaining their trials. He wanted the believer to take a stand for Christ when they were being persecuted, not to be hypocrites or be living a falsehood in Christ. Avoid envy and slander.

Questions: How do the attitudes and actions that Peter listed inhibit spiritual growth?

Peter encourages believers to desire milk, but not just any milk. He describes it in two ways. First, that it is pure milk, not contaminated milk that won't produce maturity in a believer. The pure milk is the desire for the Word of God.

Question: How would you explain the importance of proper spiritual nourishment? How does that equip you with a balanced spiritual diet?

Read 1 Peter 2:4-8 (A Spiritual House)

All those who come to Jesus for salvation become part of the building program. As verse 6 states, Christ is the cornerstone for the building, but the other stones are important in building the spiritual house.

Question: What role does a church and its members play in the development of a follower in Christ?

Peter quoted Isaiah 28:16 to reinforce his declaration that Christ is the cornerstone of the house God is building.

Question: How does knowing that Jesus was rejected by some people give believers courage to face persecution and rejection? Should we expect to be treated any differently than those who rejected Jesus?

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 (Spiritual People)

Here Peter described believers in four powerful images. We are a part of that family of God.

1. You are a chosen race.
2. You are a royal priesthood.
3. You are a holy nation.
4. You are his possession.

Question: How are you living in light as to the darkness?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12

Peter is calling us to live properly among unbelievers that are in your neighborhood and community.

Question: Do they see honorable behavior?

Assignment: Evaluate the progress of your spiritual life. How are you growing in your relationship of the Lord? What areas need more attention?

Next week: Read 1 Peter 2:13 – 1 Peter 3:12 (Living in Right Relationship)

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