



Unit 28, Session 3

Faithful in Hard Times

1 Peter 1–2

Story Point: Peter encouraged believers who faced persecution.

In the early church, Jesus' followers faced persecution. People mistreated the believers because of their faith, and many believers were forced to leave their homes and go to different cities.

Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, wrote a letter to encourage them. He wanted to help these believers be faithful in hard times.

Peter said, "Praise God! He is merciful and has given us new life. We have hope because of Jesus, whom God raised from the dead." Peter reminded believers that because we are children of God, we have blessings in heaven that cannot be taken away or destroyed. When hard times happen, God is honored as we trust Him by faith.

Peter also wrote, "Hope in Jesus and be holy." Peter reminded the believers that before they trusted in Jesus, they lived however

they wanted. Jesus gave His life to save them so they could have a better life—true life through His Word.

Peter said, "This world is not your home. Do not live like people around you who do wrong things. Instead, do what is good. Others will see your good works and give glory to God."

Jesus gave us an example to follow. He suffered for us, dying for our sins so that we could live for what is right.

Christ Connection: The Bible says Christians will suffer for following Jesus. Peter encouraged believers who faced persecution for their faith. Through suffering, God can make us more like His Son. Jesus gives us hope and true life so we can live joyfully for Him, even in hard times.



APPLY the Story

- Peter urged the early church to be holy in all their conduct. (See 1 Peter 1:15.)
How can a sinner be holy?

- What did Peter mean when he said “this world is not your home”?

- How can we choose to face hard times in our life knowing that our hope is in Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The Bible says Christians will suffer for following Jesus. Peter encouraged believers who faced persecution for their faith. Through suffering, God can make us more like His Son. Jesus gives us hope and true life so we can live joyfully for Him, even in hard times.



APPLY the Story

- Find 2 Peter 1:3 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, thanking the Lord that we don't have to face any hard things in this world alone. Thank Him for the hope and true life He gives us so that we can have joy no matter what.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 12:1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 13:8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 2:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Timothy 2:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 21:4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 3:3-4 |