

FOLLOWING JESUS

IN A WORLD THAT DOESN'T

A STUDY ON 1 PETER

STUDY TOOLS

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Teaching: Holiness 101

Key Scripture: 1 Peter 1:13–2:3

5-DAY READING PLAN WITH QUESTIONS:

Monday: 1 Peter 1:13 – 2:3

Tuesday: Leviticus 19

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 2:1–11

Thursday: Isaiah 35

Friday: Psalm 99

1. What does this passage tell you about God?
2. What does this passage tell you about people?
3. If this is God's Word (The Bible), what do I need to do?
4. What is your takeaway?
5. Who would you tell?

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

How should my life look different when I follow Jesus? In 1 Peter 1:13–2:3, Peter looks at this very question. Rather than allowing the world around us shape our thinking and behavior, we are called to prepare our minds and put our hope fully in Jesus. As we grow in holiness, we learn to love others deeply and put away our former way of life. Living a holy life is both about stopping some of our former behaviors and about feeding our new life in Christ by craving God's word. We don't live holy lives to become God's people; we live holy lives because we are God's people. If you follow Jesus, your life should look like Jesus.

Questions:

Ice Breaker: What's something you've picked up from spending a lot of time around another person—a phrase, habit, mannerism, or way of thinking?

1. Read 1 Peter 1:13–2:3 together as a group. 1:13 begins with “So” or “Therefore” referring back to the “great salvation” described in 1:1–12. How does understanding the great salvation we have in Jesus help us to “prepare our minds for action”? Why do you think he focuses on preparing specifically in our *minds*? (See Digging Deeper)
2. In 1:13, Peter also says “Put all your hope” in this great salvation. Why is the “all” significant?
3. Peter commands believers to be holy just as God is holy. After reading this whole passage, what do you think it looks like to be holy? What does it look like to be holy in our everyday life? (See Digging Deeper)

CEDAR VALLEY

Memorizing Scripture provides spiritual strength, guides your daily life, and equips you for ministry in everyday moments. For the rest of the year, we're switching things up! Each week, we encourage **you** to choose one verse from the weekly Key Scripture that stands out to you and commit it to memory. Before you choose your verse, ask God to reveal the one you most need to hide in your heart. Over time, you'll be amazed at how God brings that verse to mind—whether to strengthen and encourage you or to help you encourage someone else.

4. What do we learn about God in 1:17? What do you think the phrase “temporary residents” means for us? (See Digging Deeper)
5. In 1:22, Peter connects obedience to the truth with sincere love for one another. Why do you think love is such an important part of living a holy life? What might it look like to love others deeply in everyday life?
6. In 2:1, Peter names five things believers should put away: evil behavior, deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and unkind speech. Why do you think he specifically mentions these behaviors? Which of these can be especially easy to overlook or excuse?
7. Looking back over this passage, where do you sense God inviting you to grow right now? What is one practical step you could take this week to become more like Jesus in an everyday situation—at home, at work, at school, in a relationship, or online?

DIGGING DEEPER

Question 1—

“Prepare your minds for action” in the Greek literally says “gird the loin of your minds.” This is an idiom or an expression in the ancient world that’s hard for us to understand. The phrase refers to the custom of gathering up one’s long robes by pulling them between the legs and then wrapping and tying them around the waist to prepare for battle or action. This expression is used in Exodus 12:11 when God prepared the Israelites for the first Passover meal. This spiritual alertness described here is what should characterize the life of the believer. The battle for holiness begins in our minds.

—paraphrased from *Tyndale New Testament Commentaries: 1 Peter* by Wayne Grudem, IVP, 1999.

Question 3: For a helpful video on the theme of holiness in the bible, please watch this Bible Project video together: <https://bibleproject.com/videos/holiness/>

Question 4: “Temporary residents” is from the Greek word παροικία (paroikia) which means “exile.” The Bible Project also has a helpful video on the biblical theme of exile here: <https://bibleproject.com/videos/exile/>