

# THE COMMONS LEADER GUIDE

September 9th  
**Week 1 - A Living Hope**

## MAIN SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 1

## MAIN POINTS

- We are exiles living in a broken world (v. 1, 17).
- The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us a *living hope* and *future inheritance* that cannot be taken from us (v. 3-4, 23).
- Our job as we wait in exile is to be *obedient children* (v. 2, 14): pursuing holiness (v. 15) and loving one another and God (v. 8, 22).

## INTRODUCTION

1 Peter is a letter written by the apostle Peter to Gentile Christians dispersed throughout Asia Minor. Peter encourages these fellow believers as they face persecution, hardship, and social pressure for their faith.

In Chapter 1, Peter first *reminds* these believers of the work of Jesus Christ on the cross (v. 2) and his resurrection from the dead (v. 3). Because of this, they have a hope and joy that is not rooted in the perishable things of this world, but in their imperishable future inheritance and glory (v. 4-9).

These believers are chosen and set apart, yet they live as exiles in this world. They don't fit in. They feel out of place and long for something more. Yet despite their hardship, they rejoice because their salvation is secure. Their home in heaven waits for them.

## UPCOMING COMMONS EVENTS

Commons Late Night - **Sept 25**

**COMMONS GATHERING - Sept 30**

## RESOURCES

[Enduring Word Commentary - 1 Peter 1](#)

[1 Peter Bible Project Video](#)

[Exile Biblical Theme](#)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### READ 1 Peter 1:1-12

1. An exile is someone who is forced to live away from their home. How are believers exiles?
  - Do you feel like an exile? (*alienated, like you don't fit in*)...How does realizing you are an exile shape how you view your life?
2. What do you think it means to have "living hope" (v. 3)? How is this different than a dead hope?
  - *Hope of this world is empty and dead, but hope of the resurrection is alive and active in believers.*
3. What sort of things are included in the inheritance that is promised to us in verses 4 and 5?
  - What does the usage of the word "inheritance" tell us about our relationship with God?
4. Does your response to hardship reflect the response of these believers? (v. 6, 8)
5. What are purposes of suffering for our faith? (v. 7) What do you think it means to be "refined"?
6. How can we love Jesus even though we have never seen Him?
  - *Walk by faith, not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7)*
  - *Our adoption to sonship through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:15-17)*

### READ 1 Peter 1:13-25

1. How should we act while living in exile/as foreigners?
2. What do you think it means to be "alert and fully sober"? What does this look like in your everyday life (school, work, relationships)?
3. What does it mean to live in "reverent fear" of God (v. 17)? How is this different from being scared of Him?
4. In v. 18-19, it says that we have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, which is far more valuable than gold and silver. How does knowing this motivate you to live differently?

## APPLICATION

1. How have you responded to trials and suffering in the past? Have you experienced trials strengthening your faith?
2. Do you see the joy and hope that these believers have in your life? What's one step you can take to cultivate that in your life?
3. What habits, attitudes, or relationships might need to change so you live as an "obedient child" (v. 14)?

