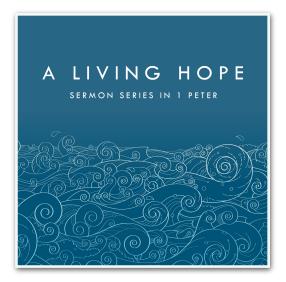
Read: 1 Peter 1:1-12

KNOW GOD: Our desire is that you would truly know God. Not just in an intellectual sense, but in a deeply connected, relational sense. When the Bible uses this idea of "know" it isn't simply about knowing facts and details, but it implies intimacy, relationship. We long for you to have that kind of knowledge of God.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Doxology (praise) provides the context for Christians' new life in Christ (1:3-5) because both their experience of suffering grief in trials (1:6-7) and their present and ultimate salvation is the goal <u>not only of their faith</u> but also of <u>the plan of God</u> as revealed to the prophets (1:8-12). - Karen Jobes



Questions:

- 1. What was your understanding of who God is both growing up and currently?
- 2. What from the passage or sermon caught your attention, challenges, or confuses you?
- 3. The Message translates v/3 as: "What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus!" What about God's character causes you to praise Him?
- 4. In verses 3-9 we learn God is the giver of life, hope, salvation and joy. Which of these gifts are an encouragement to you at this time? Which do you struggle to experience at this time? God gives: i. <u>life</u> - "caused us to be born again" (3)
- ii. hope (3)
- iii. rescue "for a salvation (rescue) ready to be revealed" (5)
- iv. joy "in this you rejoice" (6) "rejoice with joy" (8)
- 5. v/10-12 remind us that the angels "long to look into" the good news of Jesus & that it is meant for others (12). Practically, how might you cultivate a greater desire to Know God and make Him Known?

Prayer

What is one thing you want to take away from 1 Peter 1:1-12? How can the group pray for you this week?