

“A Living Hope”

Week 2: Be Who You Are

1 Peter 1:13-25

Main idea: The day-to-day, practical realities of Christian maturity can be summarized in four simple words: BE WHO YOU ARE.

I. **Fix your _____ . (v. 13)**

- a. Hope = **confident expectation** of a good future; **joyful anticipation** that God will make good on every promise He has ever made!
- b. The strategy for “fixing our hope”
 - i. “Prepare your minds for action”
 - ii. “Keep sober”

II. **Be _____ . (vv. 14-16)**

- a. Knowledge changes passions!
- b. “Like the Holy One who called you”
 - i. God’s holiness means that He is **separated** from sin and **devoted** to His own honor and glory
 - ii. “Many Christians have what we might call a ‘cultural holiness’. They adapt to the character and behavior pattern of the Christians around them. As the Christian culture around them is more or less holy, so these Christians are more or less holy. But God has not called us to be like those around us. He has called us to be like Himself. Holiness is nothing less than conformity to the character of God.” Jerry Bridges, *The Pursuit of Holiness*
- c. “Be holy yourselves” – **separated** from sin and **devoted** to God’s honor and glory!
- d. “in all your behavior”
- e. “because it is written”

III. _____ God. (vv. 17-21)

- a. "If you address as Father" (see John 1:12, 13)
- b. "The one who impartially judges according to each one's work"
 - i. Our Father = Judge of the Universe
 - ii. "Membership in God's family, great privilege though it is, must not lead to the presumption that disobedience will pass unnoticed or undisciplined."
- c. "Conduct yourselves in fear"
 - i. "fear" if you are doing what is wrong: _____
 - ii. "fear" if you are doing what is right: _____
- d. What fuels our fear of God is an awareness of *the great price of our redemption*
- e. Summary: Let fear keep you in the one and only relationship that casts out fear!

IV. _____ fervently. (vv. 22-25)

Time to "marinate":

- 1) What truth stood out to you the most from this passage and why?
- 2) On who/what are you most tempted to fix your hope? In other words, in who or what do you seek security as you face an uncertain future?
- 3) Why is God a better object/source/sustainer of hope?
- 4) With all of the "noise" in our lives (kids, crazy schedules, smart phones, etc.), how can we "prepare our minds for action"? What practical things can you do to ready yourself to think and learn about God and His ways?
- 5) What is your biggest obstacle in the pursuit of holiness? How are you currently working to overcome it?
- 6) What can you do on a daily basis to deepen a healthy fear of the Lord?
- 7) How have you recently been blessed by the "fervent love" of a fellow believer?