

Living Hope

Week 8 – Walking in His Steps

Transition: In last week's text, Peter continued addressing how a disciple's identity should affect the way they live, specifically concerning a wife who is married to a non-believing husband, and a Christian husband who is married to a Christian wife.

Context: In this week's text, Peter continues the theme of how our identity in Christ impacts the way we live. He shows how our new identity in Christ impacts the way Christians treat each other, and how Christians respond to insult from the world.

Opening Questions:

- What insults were popular when you were growing up? Was there one in particular that got under your skin? If so, what was it and how did it make you feel?
- What was your usual response when insulted in this way? A) Lash out, B) Clam up, C) Brood over it, D) Other. What did your response accomplish?

Scripture/Storying: 1 Peter 3:8-15a

Discipleship Questions:

- Out of the five adjectives mentioned in verse 8, which one do you struggle with the most? Why do you feel this is a struggle for you? How will you strengthen this area?
- Out of the five adjectives mentioned in verse 8, which one do feel strongest in? Why do you feel that you are strong in this area? How will you strengthen this area even more?
- What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you read verse 9? Why? How does knowing you have an inheritance motivate you to bless others?
- Do you have a story of a time you returned a blessing for an insult? If so, share it with the group. What were you feeling in the moment that you blessed them? Discuss some practical ways that you can bless someone that has been less than kind to you.
- Why are you blessed if you suffer for Christ? How will you remind yourself that you are blessed the next time you are insulted for the name of Christ?
- Who do you know that is suffering from the insults of others? How are you going to encourage them? How will you disciple them to respond to the insults they are receiving?

Prayer time: Upcoming Zimbabwe Mission Trip:

Pray for the Lord to work in the hearts of those on the field in Zimbabwe, along with our team preparing to serve them. Pray for the Lord to have his will with all decisions made during the planning process of the April mission trip.