

Living Hope

Week 7 – Identity In Christ Impacting the Home

Transition: In last week's text, Peter continued describing how a disciple's identity should affect the way they live, specifically concerning their response to the various authorities in his or her life.

Context: In this week's text, Peter continues 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.

Opening Questions:

- How do people draw attention to themselves through fashion today? Do you feel more emphasis is placed on fashion or character in our culture? Explain why.
- What takes more work, developing beautiful on the inside or outside? Why?

Scripture/Storying: 1 Peter 3:1-7

Discipleship Questions:

- (verse 1) In a home where only the woman was a Christian, how might Peter's instruction reduce marital tension and hostility toward Christianity in a context where Christians were suffering because of their faith? How would you disciple a woman, whose husband is not a Christian, to remain loyal to Christ and still be respectful to her husband? Have you ever seen someone come to Christ because they saw something different in their spouse? If so, share the story with the group.
- (verse 3) In the ancient world, women kept up with the latest fashions as an attention seeking tool. Why do you feel we see the same obsession in our time? What is it that you want to be known for and why? How would you disciple a young lady concerning outward appearance as well as her inner disposition? Given this principle, how does this text apply to someone who is not married?
- (verse 7) According to the text, what does living with your wife in an understanding way look like? Why is understanding an important element in marriage? How will you begin moving toward a mindset of understanding in your marriage? How would you teach a young man what living with understanding looks like in marriage?
- (verse 7) The description, "weaker vessel" is not a cut down. It is directly tied to the word "honor." Peter wants these husbands to treat their wives the way they would treat an expensive/precious vase. How will you honor your wife as the most precious thing in your life?
- (verse 7) The ground for the Christian husband showing honor to his wife is that she is a **co-heir** of the grace of life. Why do you need this reminder that your wife is a fellow heir in Christ? How will you foster this mindset in your home, that your wife is a fellow heir in Christ? Why is it important that all Christians, married or not, see each other as co-heirs? What is challenging about this to you? How will viewing fellow believers as co-heirs strengthen the church?

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.