

## **I. WE MUST BE PREPARED TO GIVE A REASON FOR OUR HOPE (1 PETER 3:15)**

- A. We expel the fear of what man can do to us by fearing God in our hearts (**1 Peter 3:13-15; Isaiah 8:12-13; Matthew 10:28**)
  
- B. We must always be prepared to make a defense when asked to give a reason for our personal hope (**1 Peter 3:15; 1:17-21**)
  
- C. We must be gentle in our defense (**1 Peter 3:15; Colossians 4:5-6**)

## **II. WE MUST GIVE A GENTLE DEFENSE OF OUR HOPE TO MAINTAIN A GOOD CONSCIENCE (1 PETER 3:16-17)**

- A. What is the conscience? (**1 Peter 3:16**)
  - 1. It is a witness and judge that leads us to act (**Romans 2:15-16; 1 Corinthians 10:25-27; 1 Peter 2:19**)
  
  - 2. It can be shaped, cleansed, and defiled (**Acts 24:16; 1 Corinthians 8:7; Titus 1:15; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; Hebrews 9:14; 10:22**)
  
  - 3. It can be good (**Acts 24:16; 1 Timothy 1:5; 1:19**) or bad (**Titus 1:15; Hebrews 10:22**)
  
- B. Our good conduct can invite bad behavior against us (**1 Peter 3:16; 1 Peter 2:12; 4:4**)
  
- C. We must maintain a good conscience by being sober-minded and self-controlled even under the pressure of suffering (**1 Peter 3:16; 2:15, 19-20; 3:9; 4:7**)
  
- D. It is a blessing to suffer for doing good (**1 Peter 3:17**)
  - 1. Suffering under God's will can sanctify (**1 Peter 3:17; 1 Peter 1:6-7; Hebrews 5:8**)
  
  - 2. It is a blessing to suffer for righteousness' sake (**1 Peter 3:14; 4:14; Matthew 5:10-12**)

### **WORDS I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND**

### **SOMETHING NEW TO ME**

### **WHAT I HEARD ABOUT THE GOSPEL**

## SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. What is the conscience? Why do you think having a good conscience is so important?

2. What is the difference between a good and bad conscience? How can we have a good conscience even amid suffering?

3. Why is it better to suffer for doing good than for doing evil?

## ATTRIBUTES OF GOD I HEARD *(CIRCLE THE ONES MENTIONED)*

Good

Wise

Wrathful

Merciful

Just

Jealous

Faithful

Perfect

Holy

Gracious

Patient

Love

Other:

## KEY WORDS *(WRITE WHAT THESE WORDS MEAN)*

Apologetics –

Conscience –

Infallible –

## NOTES OR DRAWINGS ABOUT WHAT I HEARD