

I. WE MAY BE ASKED FOR A REASON FOR OUR HOPE (1 PETER 3:15)

- A. As Christians, we are characteristically hopeful because Jesus is our hope (**1 Timothy 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14; 2 Corinthians 1:9-10**)

- B. Our hope ought to govern our behavior (**1 Peter 3:5; 1 John 3:2-3**)

- C. We have a living hope that is steady, safe, and sanctifying (**1 Peter 1:3-7, 13**)

II. WE MUST BE READY TO GIVE OUR REASON WITH GENTLENESS AND RESPECT (1 PETER 3:15)

- A. What is gentleness?
 - 1. Three images that help show what gentleness is (**Isaiah 8:6-7; 1 Kings 19:11-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:7**)

 - 2. Gentleness is a moral virtue (**Galatians 5:22-23; 2 Peter 1:5-7**)

 - 3. Gentleness requires wisdom, because there are times we should not be gentle (**James 3:13; 2 Timothy 2:24-25, 2 Corinthians 13:10; Titus 1:13; 1 Corinthians 4:21**)

- B. How can we prepare ourselves to give a reason with gentleness and respect?
 - 1. We should ask God for wisdom (**James 1:5**)

 - 2. We should ask God to make us the kind of people we ought to be (**1 Peter 3:8**)

 - 3. We should stand firm in God's ways and goals (**2 Timothy 2:4-25; Galatians 6:1**)

 - 4. We should remember the gospel (**Titus 3:1-7**)

SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. What does it mean that gentleness is a moral virtue?

2. What area of preparation to give a reason with gentleness and respect do you need to focus on in your own life?

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)*

Sanctifying/Sanctify –

Moral virtue –

Temperament –

NOTES OR DRAWINGS ABOUT WHAT I HEARD