

Living It Up Series | 1 Peter | WEEK 1

Series Overview of 1 Peter:

1. 1-5 | New birth/protected inheritance
2. 6-9 | Rejoice in struggles to refine faith
3. 13-16 | Calling to holiness and heavenly mindset
4. 17-21 | Because Jesus saved us, we are now temporary residents on Earth
5. 22-25 | We can have hope in God's Word because He is faithful and eternal

Purpose of Series: When we think of the phrase 'Living it Up' it usually comes with an idea that we are living our best life. We are indulging in all the greatest things this life has to offer. With this series, I want to take that phrase and turn it on its head, and study how Peter writes to the churches in Asia Minor (Modern-Day Turkey) and calling them to a life of holiness! I want us to think about Living it up as, living up to God's calling!

Things to Watch for this week:

- This discussion should be encouraging for believers as it talks about the promises for our salvation! Young believers should feel encouraged and pushed to obedience in following Christ
- Look out for non-believers in your pod, and this may be an opportunity to share the Gospel and talk about how Jesus has given us new birth (John 3:3-15), and how He is our Living Hope!

Intro:

- Welcome to _____ (insert student ministry name)!
 - We are so glad you are here!
- _____ (insert your name), one of the pastors here at _____ (insert church name)!
 - We want you to learn it, live it and give it!
 - We want you to pursue your own personal relationship with Jesus Christ!
- We are starting a new series this evening called: Living It Up

- When we think about this phrase, some things come to mind:
 - Living my best life, take advantage of all this life has to offer, I'm gonna do me, that person is rich and has an amazing life- they are living it up
- This is not what God has called us to do in this life! God has called us to holiness! (1:16)
- We can live holy...

Main Idea: We can live holy because GOD PROTECTS OUR SALVATION

DQ 1: **Do you think there is a point where God will give up on you because you have made too many mistakes? (Sinned too much)**

- This is our pushy/thought-provoking question so allow students to answer and push them to think deeply about this.
- Really pull out the ideas of what students think: how if they can lose their salvation or that they are too evil or bad for God to love them

Reading: 1 Peter 1:1-5

- Context:
 - Author: Peter- one of the 12 disciples
 - Matthew 16- On this rock (Petra/Peter) I will build my church
 - Peter is writing to the believers in Asia Minor (Modern Day Turkey)
 - Many of these churches were planted by Paul
 - These churches were feeling discouraged because they were under consistent persecution at the time

DQ 2: **Based on this passage, what has God done for us?**

- Answer:
 - V. 3- Born again/given us salvation
 - V. 3- Resurrecting Jesus- Romans 10:9

- V. 4- an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you
- V. 5- God is protecting our faith by His power
- Also consider reading John 14:1-3 which talks about how Jesus is preparing a place for us in heaven.

Extra Questions: If you feel led, go ahead, and ask these questions to help expand discussion. *These questions are pretty pushy, but encourage students to be honest and open.* Really push them to think deeply about this.

- **If our inheritance is protected, then can't I do whatever I want here?**
 - Romans 6:1-2, and 7:17-20
 - We are not to continue in sin
 - God has called us to holiness, not just being apathetic in our sin
- **Born again is a weird term. What do you think it means?**
 - Really push the idea of born again because I am sure some students in your pod may know this answer, but others may not! Push them to go beyond christianese!
 - Answer: John 3:3-15
 - Born again- We are given new life, and we are a new creation! (2 Cor 5:17)
- **What about the unforgiveable sin? Matthew 12:22-32**
 - Answer: If you blaspheme the Holy Spirit, you would not have a relationship with God, so you would not be saved.

DQ 3: **Read John 10:27-30 and Romans 8:37-39. What do these verses say about God as it pertains to His relationship with us? How does this make us live differently?**

- Short answer: We cannot be separated from the Love of God and our salvation is secured because 'no one will snatch them out of my hand.'
- This should push us to deeper dependence and obedience to God for how amazing He is to secure our inheritance!
- **How can students seek to be obedient to God this week?**

- Where has He called them, where students may be afraid to go and be obedient?

Final Punch:

- Because I am promised inheritance, wouldn't we live a bit more bold and riskier?
- If we knew we would win the lottery one day, would we live a bit more boldly knowing we will get a great inheritance?