



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - 1 Peter Study

Week 5 - Day 3

Approaching God

Listen - Yesterday Peter reminded Christians who face trials, insults, and persecution of the eternal inheritance that awaits them. Who can really harm us if God will bless us? No one! The worst thing that can happen to us in this life is that we die and receive our promised inheritance. It's hard to think that way sometimes, but Paul reminds us of this as well in Romans 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?" How might clinging to an eternal perspective shape your thoughts about what's in front of you today, this week? Start by listening to the classic hymn: *It is Well* and meditating on the truth of God's love for you. [Click here to listen](#)

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - 1 Peter 3:15-17

Passage Introduction: Over the next couple days we'll be looking at the rest of 1 Peter 3 in small chunks along with passages that correspond with the theme Peter is calling us to consider. Our format will be slightly different as we will build in study questions along with the passages.

1 Peter 3:14-17 - 14 *"Do not fear their threats ; do not be frightened."* **15** *But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,* **16** *keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.* **17** *For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.*

- In the chart below, note in the appropriate column every instruction Peter gives for our behavior under persecution:

Heart	Mind	Speech	Actions

- Looking at your answers above, how do the inward behaviors of the heart and mind shape the outward behaviors of speech and actions?

- What steps can we take to be prepared to make a defense of our faith? Try to think of 2 or 3 things that might help you be more prepared? What or where do you need help?
- Peter says to defend your faith with gentleness and respect. What's the difference between giving a defense and being defensive? Is this our usual demeanor when answering or having a conversation about an opposing view? Why or why not?

Proverbs 15:1-2 - 1 *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. 2 The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.*

- What other good reason for gentleness and respectful speech is found in Proverbs 15?

Colossians 4:5-6 - 5 *Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

2 Timothy 2:24-26 - 24 *And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 25 Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.*

- How does what Paul say about speaking with unbelievers expand on Peter's instructions in 3:15-16?

Close in Prayer:

We should always be ready to provide a rationale for their faith, but we should also do so winsomely and righteously. And if Christ's disciples keep a good conscience, any accusations against them will prove groundless, and their accusers will be put to shame. Take some time to talk to the Lord today about how you could grow in sharing your faith? What are some hurdles and obstacles that you'd like to talk to Him about today? Thank God for opportunities you've had to share your faith with others and ask him to show you and provide further opportunities in the near future. These are prayers that God loves to answer!