

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Mar..... 1 Peter 1:1-12..... Our Inheritance
- 2) 09 Mar..... 1 Peter 1:13-25..... Our Mandate
- 3) 16 Mar..... 1 Peter 2:1-10..... Our Identify
- 4) 23 Mar..... 1 Peter 2:11-25..... Our Witness
- 5) **30 Mar..... 1 Peter 3:1-12..... Our Relationships**
- 6) 06 Apr..... 1 Peter 3:13-22..... Our Defense
- 7) 13 Apr..... 1 Peter 4:1-11..... Our Faith
- 8) 20 Apr..... 1 Peter 4:12-19..... Our Savior
- 9) 27 Apr..... 1 Peter 5:1-14..... Be Prepared
- 10) 04 May..... 2 Peter 1:3-11..... Be Humble
- 11) 11 May..... 2 Peter 1:12-21..... Be Equipped
- 12) 18 May..... 2 Peter 2:1-22 / Jude 1-25..... Be Alert
- 13) 25 May..... 2 Peter 3:1-18..... Be Encouraged

INTRODUCTION

- Peter was writing to a church who lived in a pagan culture which devalued the need for a man to be faithful in his marriage, and this society accepted concubines and prostitution as common practices
- Though the Bible does a GREAT job telling us what makes a godly marriage, it is hard to find some good examples, even in the Bible
- A few marriages that stand out as good examples are: Adam & Eve before they sinned; Abraham & Sarah before Hagar; Solomon & his Shulamite bride before all his other women; Mary & Joseph; and Aquila & Priscilla
- In this section Peter conveys some powerful principles for married couples to follow if they truly want a long, blessed union

Passage	Comments
1Peter 3:1-2	<p>Wives – “Be Submitting to Your Own Husbands”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The probable context is a wife has recently accepted Christ and has joined the church – but her husband remains a pagan – so how should a believing wife act? • This statement “be submitting” is not a command, but a participial phrase (‘ing’) emphasizing “voluntary” submittal to an unbelieving husband • BUT, is this statement with or without conditions? • What if the husband is abusive? see Mat 18:15-17 • A parallel passage is 1 Corinthians 7:10-16 • Criticism & nagging are ineffective tools of evangelism, but Godly behavior accomplishes much for the Kingdom (actions speak louder than words) • End result → An unbelieving spouse either accepts Christ or becomes less antagonistic toward Christianity
More Thoughts on Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1) Submission does not mean inferiority; • 2) Submission is to be given willingly; and • 3) Submission does not tolerate brutality or sinfulness • For other commands to submit to husbands, see Eph 5:22 & Col 3:18. These passages emphasize willful, joyful obedience – not obedience out of compulsion • Do things God's way and we can expect godly results
3:3-4	<p>Clothing and Makeup Are Optional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians use this passage to restrict the use of makeup and even to dictate the style of clothes • Peter's intent was not to establish a dress code, but to convey that something had a higher priority over one's physical appearance – and that was for the inner person to be predictably gentle, humble, and honorable – qualities which God enjoys working with • How much does a woman's physical appearance play into manipulating people – especially men? • Peter's position was less is better – simplicity, not extravagance – character, not sexuality

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3:5-6	<p>OT Example of a Godly Wife – Sarah – the Wife Who Gave Her Husband a Younger Woman to Love</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally, Peter was addressing Sarah's godly qualities, and not her unwise act regarding Hagar • What were some of Sarah's godly qualities? Gen 17-21 																										
3:7	<p>Attitude Adjustment for Men – “Life is Not About Me”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the wife deserves special treatment or not is irrelevant – we are to treat them with HIGH REGARD • We don't deserve God's love either, but He loved us to death. What a powerful example we need to follow. • God COMMANDS us to be aware of, and responsive to our wife's needs. We are to be there for them, • END RESULT → ANSWERED PRAYERS 																										
3:8-12	<p>Summing up home life, business life, & social life:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Things to do</th> <th>Things NOT to do</th> <th>→ Benefits ←</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Have unity</td> <td>Do not seek revenge</td> <td rowspan="2">• Receive a blessing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Be sympathetic</td> <td>Do not return insults</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Be like family</td> <td>Do not speak evil</td> <td rowspan="2">• Enjoy a long life</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Be compassionate</td> <td>Do not be deceptive</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do Good</td> <td></td> <td rowspan="2">• God watches over us continuously</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Turn from evil</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Give a blessing</td> <td></td> <td rowspan="2">• He hears our every prayer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Be humble</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seek & Pursue Peace</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Things to do	Things NOT to do	→ Benefits ←	Have unity	Do not seek revenge	• Receive a blessing	Be sympathetic	Do not return insults	Be like family	Do not speak evil	• Enjoy a long life	Be compassionate	Do not be deceptive	Do Good		• God watches over us continuously	Turn from evil		Give a blessing		• He hears our every prayer	Be humble		Seek & Pursue Peace		
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CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- This life is not about us – it's about CHRIST and serving the people He put around us – beginning with our spouse

NEXT WEEK: 1Peter 3:13-22. Per some commentaries, these verses are some of the most challenging to interpret in all of the NT.

- Who are the “spirits in prison”; how does baptism save us?
- And what does baptism save us from?
- Oh, and we are to be “apologists” who are able to defend the truth and give a satisfactory answer to everyone who asks us tough questions



“He was very romantic when we first got married, but you know how men change.”