

# PERSEVERE WITH PETER

## LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

Meeting **THEME: Damaging hopelessness dealt with**

**Prepare** yourself. Pray for your Life Group's meeting. Read I Peter 1 – 2 : 3

**20.00 – 20.10 Start** A question for everyone. We know that God, that Jesus wants us to be obedient to Him. Are you aware of an area or topic wherein you struggle with obedience to Him and wherein you find it difficult not to give in to sin? Do you have the courage (and feel the safety) to share?

**20.10 – 20.15 Pray.**

**20.15 - 20.40 Bible passage:** Read I Peter 1 : 13 – 2 : 3<sup>1</sup>

**Look again at 1:13**

- Look at the preceding verses. Use your own words to explain the 'Therefore' Against their experiences of being rejected, of suffering grief, Peter encourages his readers to remind themselves of the Gospel, of the future hope. And using their minds, to encourage their hearts to hope in God. How this works you can for instance see in Psalm 42, see for instance verse 5.
- What do you believe is Peter's aim in encouraging us to set our hope fully on the grace that will be brought to us?

**Look again at 1:14-16**

- Why does Peter mention the word 'ignorance'?
- How could you define holiness, when you look at what is further mentioned into these verses?

**Look again at 1:17-21**

- What are the two reasons Peter mentions to conduct ourselves with fear for God? Does fear imply that we must be scared of God?

**Look again at 1:22-25**

- Now that we have hope and new life, through faith – what does Peter encourage (and why)?

**Look again at 2:1-3**

- Verse 1 summarises the old life (before you came to believe in the Gospel. According to verses 2-3, what do we need to do now? Why? How can you practise this?

**20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper**

Look again at the question we started with. Take a moment of silence. What did you learn? What do you want to share now and ask prayer for?

**20.50 – 21.00 End** the Life Group meeting with praying together.

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<sup>1</sup> In the language of Peter's letter and in this passage for the verbs participles and imperatives are used; this is not visible in every translation. For your information, it is important to see how the participles are meant to modify the imperative. They give a more accurate description how to execute the imperative. There are only a few imperatives in this passage (in the original Greek), these structure the passage. Namely: **1.** set your hope (vs. 13), **2.** be holy (vs. 15), **3.** conduct yourselves with fear (vs. 17), **4.** love one another earnestly (vs. 22), **5.** long for the pure, spiritual milk (2 vs. 2). All the other verbs are participles. For instance, 2:1 literally: So putting away all malice (and so on).