



Lemoore church of Christ

April 19, 2020

Focusing on Hope

He continually reinforces this theme in the first 12 verses. By reiterating a few of the blessings promised by a faithful God, Peter prompts believers to focus on the hope that is part and parcel of a right relationship with Him: their election and sanctification through the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus. 1 Peter 1:2.

To bolster his assertion, Peter lists the following blessings encompassed in a right relationship with God:

Believers are reborn to a living hope– 1 Peter 1:3

Believers have the hope of an incorruptible inheritance waiting for them in heaven– 1 Peter 1:4

Believers are comforted by the hope in the power of God's eternal salvation– 1 Peter 1:5

Believers have great inexpressible joy in the fullness of God's glory– 1 Peter 1:6-9

Reviewing the blessings associated with Christ, Peter urges believers to prepare for the hardships that Christians face as part of their walk with Christ. Rather than focusing on adversity, Peter directs His readers to fix their minds on the hope they have in Christ:

"Therefore, prepare your minds for action; keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ," 1 Peter 1:13.

Today, we appreciate and understand the relevance of Peter's epistle regarding a right relationship with Christ. He steadfastly encourages fellow believers to turn away from any and all things that impede focusing on the hope embedded in a spiritual relationship. He urges believers to put away the impediments of

fear, worry, or preoccupation with carnal possessions. Instead, replace obstacles with a hope that rests wholly in the grace we will receive when Christ comes again.

I. Peter: Strengthen the focus of your hope, 1Peter 1:13

- a. Place hope in Christ
- b. "Fix your hope completely"
- c. Cultivating a strong hope is essential in a right relationship

II. Peter identifies the focus of believers' hope

- a. Why believers have hope, I Peter 1:12-13
- b. Grace of Jesus Christ
- c. Promises inherent in a right relationship with Jesus

III. Peter tells us how to fortify our hope

- a. "Prepare your mind", Luke 8:14
- b. "Keep sober in the spirit", Luke 21:36

IV. Conclusion:

Remember, we are pilgrims traveling through this life. Our hope is not in carnal things but in the Grace supplied by Jesus the Christ.

In service to our Lord,

—Rod Ellison

Five Minutes with God: This week:

Sunday	Day 110	Mark 4:33-34
Monday	Day 111	Matthew 8:23-27
Tuesday	Day 112	Mark 4:35-41
Wednesday	Day 113	Luke 8:26-39
Thursday	Day 114	Mark 5:21-24,35-43
Friday	Day 115	Mark 5:25-34
Saturday	Day 116	Matthew 9:27-34

Zoom Fellowship:

Grab a cookie and coke/milk/coffee - We will attempt to have a zoom fellowship this afternoon about 4:30, prior to evening services. A link has been emailed out. There are 2 ways to access the zoom meeting – One is to click the link (easier) and the other is to type the meeting number and password into the zoom website. It will be short meeting – just a quick hello to see and enjoy people's faces. Please contact Denise if you are not on the email list or didn't get the invitation.

Prayer List:

Bodie, friend of Bailey Radcliff, diagnosed with 2 brain tumors.

Rita Frankmore has been sent home with hospice care. She and Anthony covet your prayers.

The Lopez Family, Mirella had to take Janessa to the emergency room. Dr. says no the virus at this time but she is still very sick.

Twila, Darlene Wilson's daughter, has been exposed to the virus and is in quarantine. It is also affecting her lupus.

Linda Storey, formerly from Hanford, in hospital in Fresno with blood clots

Meryl Wamhoff and Wayne Bergeron, friends of Lisa Butts both diagnosed with cancer.

Helen Dowell, sister of Shirley Garretson, passed away in Arkansas. Services are pending at this time.

Lora Virden is recovering at Becky's.

Red Cooper will be having a CT scan and additional tests prior to aortic valve replacement surgery.

Jr. Gutierrez living in a highly infected area of So. California.

Jeff McCord temporarily off work during COVID

Ken and Darla McCord moving to Tenn.

Gary Radcliff, Garth's father, is currently cancer free but may have radiation again in the future.

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom Esophageal tumor has shrunk. No other cancer detected. Will talk with surgeon in the future regarding removal of tumor. Kim thanks everyone for their prayers.

Marlon Raygoza that he gets the supervision he needs to make positive changes in his life.

Linda Frye, Cancer

Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin, blood clots in his legs but has returned to work.

Angie and Tito Cano-no active cancer was found in PET scan-on maintenance meds

Alexis Raygoza is recovering from health issues.

Bart Massey, friend of Dixie Blair, stage 4 stomach cancer

Doug Standridge

Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment

Our Mission Work:

- First Responders including many of our members/family:
Nicole McCord Director of pre-natal building
Katelyn McCord working in the ER
Zeb Reid Deputy Sheriff in Tulare County
Christy Reid working in Pharmacy
Martin Gutierrez working officer in So. CA
- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting

Please email updates and additions to Denise at djdean1956@yahoo.com

Events list will return to the bulletin when our shelter in place is lifted.