



Lemoore church of Christ

May 3, 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. 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 124	Matthew 10:1-15
Monday	Day 125	Matthew 10:16-26
Tuesday	Day 126	Matthew 10:27-31
Wednesday	Day 127	Matthew 10:32-33
Thursday	Day 128	Matthew 10:34-39
Friday	Day 129	Matthew 10:40-42
Saturday	Day 130	Mark 6: 14-29

Contact information:

Garrett and Lynda Sander have updated their phone information. Please add to your directory:

Garrett: 559-942-1597

Lynda: 559-942-1603

Prayer List:

Twila and Chantal, daughter and granddaughter of Darlene Wilson, have tested negative for the virus and have been released home. Darlene thanks everyone for their prayers.

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom Will be have laparoscopy surgery on May 6 to remove the tumor in her esophagus.

Martin Gutierrez working officer in So. CA had a negative virus test result.

Lorie Witt has been diagnosed with COVID-19. She and Justin are in quarantine at this time.

Richard Hunsbarger, Stephanie Tishmacher's step-dad, was hospitalized with COPD this past week at the VA hospital in Fresno. He has been intubated to give his lungs a break. Sharon is unable to be there with him.

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

Rita Frankmore is under the care of a home health care nurse.

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.

Red Cooper will be having aortic heart valve surgery on Wednesday May 6th

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

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

- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting

Thank you to all who have been texting and emailing updates and additions.

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