

January 21, 2024

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

1 Peter 1:6-9

“Stand Up & Stand Out!”

“Heavenly Hope” Part 2

- I. Salvation (1:1-12)
 - A. Heaven Given (1-2)
 - B. Heaven Guaranteed (3-5)
 - C. Heavenly _____ (6-9)

Discussion & Application:

1. Share with one another **specific opportunities** you had this week to Stand Up & Stand Out for Jesus. Was it easy or was it hard to do so? What has helped you in the past or what would help you in the future to boldly stand up / stand out for Jesus?
2. Discuss the difference in worship between a person who believes they did something to earn eternal salvation and a person who believes it was entirely a gracious **gift**. How might each person respond when extremely difficult times come upon them (i.e., health crisis, loss of job, loss of loved one, extreme persecution...)?
3. How does knowing that heaven is **guaranteed** impact the following:
 - Transparency about your struggles / sins (with God and with other people)
 - Worship (intensity and frequency)
 - Confidence in prayer
 - Fear of man
 - Fear of death
4. Peter describes two seemingly contradictory emotions happening at the same time (greatly **rejoicing** and being **distressed**). How is it possible to have both of those at the same time? Share with others if you have experienced this. How did you respond? How should you respond?
5. Why is God seeking to accomplish when He sends (and/or allows) **various trials** to come into our lives? What is the impact on our faith? Why does Peter compare it to gold being tested by fire? What are the benefits in the short term and in the long term?
6. Look back on your **growth patterns** as a believer in Jesus. When did you grow the most? Why?
7. In verse 7, after our faith has been proven by various trials, for whom does it result in **praise and glory and honor** at the revelation of Jesus Christ?
8. Read **John 20:24-29** and **Hebrews 11:1**, and then compare it to 1 Peter 1:8. Where do we learn about Jesus so we can believe in Him and love Him more? What is it about Jesus that would cause us to love Him more than this world and the things of this world? List the things that you love about Jesus and why.
9. Peter keeps pointing to the eternal future of believers (**heaven**) as one of the motivations to rejoice now even though we are suffering for believing in Jesus. How often do you think about heaven? How might thinking more about heaven impact your thoughts, attitudes, emotions, and actions today?
10. What might it look like on a Sunday morning if we were all **rejoicing greatly with joy inexpressible and full of glory**? Is that how you currently worship? If not, why not? If so, what has helped you worship the Lord so freely?
11. MEMORIZE **1 Peter 1:6-9**. If you memorize the entire book of 1 Peter by the time Pastor Paul finishes preaching through it, he will give you a relatively valuable prize.

[Word for blank: *Worship*]