

Peter is writing a letter to God's elect, who are temporary residents in this world:

- *God gave us a living hope of salvation through the resurrection of Jesus.*
- *"Be holy, because I am holy."*
- *Live your temporary stay in fear, knowing you were redeemed with the blood of Christ.*
- *You are a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus.*
- *You are a chosen people...that you may declare the praises of him who called you.*
- *Keep away from fleshly desires and conduct yourself well among the pagans.*

Peter commands three instances of submission:

everyone to governing authority (2:13-17)

slaves to masters (2:18-25)

wives to husbands (3:1-7)

Read 1 Peter 2:18-20.

We can apply Peter's words to employee / employer situations.

In what ways would a slave submit to a master?

What is surprising about the way a Christian slave is told to submit?

What kind of endurance is not a credit to the individual? What kind of endurance is?

When have you had to put these words into practice in your life?

Read 1 Peter 2:21-25.

What were you called to?

Christ left both a pattern and footsteps. Let's discuss both images.

Let's read Isaiah 53:5-9. Which thoughts from Isaiah does Peter repeat?

Peter uses a combination of Christ as Savior and as example. Explain why.

Read 1 Peter 3:1-6.

In what ways does a wife submit to a husband?

What might a wife be trying to accomplish by acting this way?

What kind of beauty is valuable in God's sight?

How do wives become Sarah's daughters?

Why do you think the wife is called a *weaker vessel*?

Why are husbands told to honor their wives?

What gets in the way of a husband's prayers?

How can we instill what Peter says in the hearts and minds of our young people?