

June 16 – 22

Chosen and Exiled | Hope Over Fear

Icebreaker: When have you felt most fearful in life? Most hopeful? What makes the difference?

Read 1 Peter 3:8–17

SOAP Discussion (Details on the SOAP Method at www.cfdowningtown.com/soap)

Further Discussion

Re-read 1 Peter 3:8–12

- For each of the characteristics described in verse 8, talk about what that looks like within the church. Share someone that you know who exemplifies that description.
- How do the characteristics of verse 8 help create the kind of setting in which evil is not repaid with evil (verse 9)?
- In verses 10–12 Peter quotes from Psalm 34:12–16. What motivations are covered in these verses for blessing others rather than repaying evil?

Re-read 1 Peter 3:13–17

- According to these verses, what are the ways in which we ought to live among the people in our world?
- Why is living a good life that demonstrates righteousness so important to the people we interact with?
- How would fear color the way that we interact with people? How is hope the antidote to fear? Where does our ultimate hope come from?
- How would a person be perceived by others in this world whose life reflects the description of these verses? (Being zealous to do good, suffering for doing good, being fearless in the face of persecution, and having a heart that honors Jesus)
- Why is gentleness and respect toward others so important in how we talk about our faith in Jesus? What would the opposite of this look like? What would it accomplish?
- How is suffering for doing good better than suffering for doing evil? You are still suffering, so what's the difference?

Application

- In a world that is against your faith in many ways, is your tendency toward righteousness and hope or is it toward fear and revenge? How can you strengthen the former and fight against the latter?
- If someone asks you for a reason for the hope that you have, how would you answer?

For Next Week: Use SOAP with one verse in 1 Peter 4:1–11.