



# Unmistakable

**Week 2 - Devotional Guide Through 1 Peter**

Reflections for the week beginning Monday 18th May

# Unmistakable Holiness

## Day 1

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 1:13**

*Be Holy*

*Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.*

Pause to reflect:

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in this verse?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

# Day 1 - A further reflection

Peter has already spoken of the hope we have in Christ and the second coming of Christ in his letter. In this verse he returns to those themes and urges his readers to fully immerse themselves in those two realities. So much so, that the imminent return of Christ becomes a motivating force guiding how they live their lives.

It's not a passive way of living. The way of Christ is active. It requires us to walk in step with the Holy Spirit who will lead, convict and empower us to control our emotions, appetites, and impulses. If we are being lazy about our faith, unprepared for the opportunities God places in front of us, or unable to control ourselves, the Holy Spirit will beckon us to repent and align our lives more closely with Him.

We do this with future oriented vision,  
setting our hope on the grace to be given to us when  
Jesus Christ is revealed.

# Day 1 - A moment of honesty

Take stock of your current spiritual vitality by asking yourself these questions:

- Am I active or passive about my faith?
- Do I exhibit self-control over my emotions, appetites, and impulses?
- What can I do to walk more in step with the Holy Spirit?

Recommit whatever is needed to the Lord.



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## Day 2

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 1:14-16**

*As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."*

### Pause to reflect:

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in these verses?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

## Day 2 - A further reflection

Peter identifies one of the most fundamental expectations of Christians: we are to be like the One we worship. The NIV Life Application Bible shares the following comments about this passage: "After people commit their lives to Christ, they usually still feel a pull back to their old ways. Peter tells us to be like our heavenly Father - holy in everything we do. Holiness means being totally devoted or dedicated to God, set aside for his special use and set apart from sin and its influence. We are to be set apart and different, not blending in with the crowd.

What makes us different are God's qualities in our lives. Our focus and priorities must be his. We cannot become holy on our own, but God gives us his Holy Spirit to help us obey and to give us power to overcome sin."

## Day 2 - A moment of honesty

- What are the ways that your life reflects the One you worship?
- Ask Him to show you an area where your life does not reflect His.
- Confess and invite the Holy Spirit to fill you afresh and to keep making you more like Jesus.



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## Day 3

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 1:17-21**

*Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.*

### **Pause to reflect:**

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in these verses?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

## Day 3 - A further reflection

Peter encourages his readers to embrace their status as “temporary residents”, with lives that are fully submitted to God, even if living in such a way brings disapproval from others. He is encouraging us to keep living this way, because our redemption was not bought lightly with the temporary treasure of this world, but rather with the precious blood of the lamb.

As Peter reminds us of the costliness of Jesus’ sacrifice, it also underscores the depth of God’s love for us. Living as strangers in this world can be a lonely experience that can make us feel unloved and less significant than others, but when we pause to consider what God has done for us through Christ we remember that we are loved and valued by our God. And knowing that helps us stay the course.

## Day 3 - **A moment of honesty**

Reflect on the price that the Father paid to redeem you to himself.  
Recommit yourself to live for Him above all else.



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## Day 4

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 1:22-23**

*Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.*

### Pause to reflect:

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in these verses?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

## Day 4 - A further reflection

Obeying God's truth purifies us from sin and this enables us to love our Christian brothers and sisters sincerely.

Peter asks us to also love deeply with a "want to" kind of love rather than an "ought to" kind of love.

The motivation for loving others deeply from the heart is because Jesus loves each of us deeply from the heart. Peter's desire is that the community of Christ should mirror the character of Christ. As a church we are called to be people who offer authentic, Christ-like love to one another and to all who we encounter.

## Day 4 - A moment of honesty

- How well have you been loving others from the heart recently?
- Who is it that God would have you express his love to this week?

Ask the Lord to grow your capacity to love others with  
Jesus' kind of love.

Repent of the ways that you have not been loving well.



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## Day 5

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 2:1-3**

*Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

### Pause to reflect:

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in these verses?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

## Day 5 - A further reflection

The phrase that stands out to me in this passage is, “now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.” It is a reference to Psalm 34:8. Here, Peter uses the line from the Psalm to explain the motivation for changed behaviour and changed priorities. And there is a “before and after” effect to it: Now that you tasted that the Lord is good, live differently as a result. Now that you have been given a taste of the God-life, get rid of everything that doesn’t belong to that life. Now that you have experienced the Lord and know who he is, act in ways that reflect his character.

Now that you have seen the Lord’s work in your own life, make his work in your life the priority of your life - crave the things of God. Peter believes that everything changes once you experience the Lord, and it seems as if he can’t fathom how anyone who has “now tasted that the Lord is good” would want to go back to a lesser way of living.

## Day 5 - A moment of honesty

Do your attitudes, values and behaviour reflect what you have tasted in the goodness of God?

Ask the Lord to replace everything that doesn't reflect who he is with his character and goodness in how you live.



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## Day 6

### **Bible reading 1 Peter 2:4-5**

*The Living Stone and a Chosen People*

*As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

Pause to reflect:

- What is the Lord drawing to your attention in these verses?
- What might He be wanting you to take hold of?

## Day 6 - A further reflection

God has always had a desire to live among the people he created. We first see it in the creation narrative of Genesis 2-3, but it's a theme that runs throughout the story of Scripture, culminating with the incarnation of Jesus Christ and the indwelling nature of the Holy Spirit. This desire is what motivated God to establish the Temple in the Old Testament. The Temple was a visible symbol of God dwelling among his people, which is why it was treated with so much reverence and why it was a strategic target for destruction by the enemies of God's people.

In this passage Peter builds on the understanding that under the new covenant, God's dwelling place is no longer the Temple building, but rather is each of us. We are the "living stones" that make up a new "spiritual house."

God's presence is established in the church - the followers of Christ.

Furthermore, we are also given the identity of priests, one who offers spiritual sacrifices in this new temple – offering our bodies, offering our money and material things and offering our praises. As we do this, we are bringing both ourselves and others to God and being a visible symbol of God's presence to our communities.

## Day 6 - A moment of honesty

With each of us being the temple who carries God's presence with us, how might you make God's presence visible or able to be experienced by someone in your sent place today?

