

A person is walking away from the viewer on a narrow, rocky path that leads towards a sunset over the ocean. The path is flanked by large, grey rocks and sparse green vegetation. The ocean is visible in the distance, with the sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and water. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

THE LETTERS OF
1 & 2 Peter
LIVING HOPE IN EXILE

1 Peter 3:1-22

Peter's Challenge:

**What does it look like to
live differently because we
belong to Jesus?**

Peter's Take Away:

**Understanding who God is
shapes how we live, and how
we live should point those
around us to Jesus!**

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 - In **the workplace** (2:18-25)

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 - In the workplace (2:18-25)
- In the home (marriage) (3:1-7)

We celebrate diversity and difference



Different
cultures



Different
gifts



Different
perspectives



Different
backgrounds



But can become
uncomfortable with
meaningful differences
between men and women

Equality = Sameness?



As Christian's, our starting point is not what our culture happens to think. Our starting point is God's word!

**Are we willing to let Jesus
shape the way we live – even
when His ways challenge the
assumptions of our culture?**

1 Peter 3:1-7 (NIV)

¹ Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, ² when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. ³ Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. ⁴ Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.

1 Peter 3:1-7 (NIV)

⁵ For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, ⁶ like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

⁷ Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

**Q: How can the way I love and
treat my husband or wife
reflect the love of Jesus?**

The REASON why...

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- Don't use your freedom in Christ to assert yourself or create unnecessary conflict.
- Let your freedom in Christ shape how you love, honour and serve your spouse that they too might come to know Jesus!

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...if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, ² when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.

“I’m not sure I believe
what you say about Jesus,
**but I can’t deny what
I see in your life.**”



Purity.



Reverence.



Gentleness.



A quiet spirit.



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- If those closest to you were to judge your relationship with Jesus simply by watching the way you live, what would they see?

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The BENCHMARK to follow... in Marriage

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- **The closer we grow to Jesus, the more our lives ought to reflect His character!**

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v.1 "Wives, in the same way..."

v.7 "Husbands, in the same way..." (ESV = 'likewise')

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- **Jesus Christ is our standard** (v.1, 7; cf. 2:21-25 & Eph 5:21-33)

The BENCHMARK to follow... as Disciples

- We are to LIVE differently towards one another (v.8-12)

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1 Peter 3:9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing

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1 Peter 3:10-11 Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.

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1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

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- We are to live differently towards one another (v.8-12)
- We can entrust ourselves to God rather than taking matters into our own hands (v.12).

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- Suffering does not necessarily mean we're doing anything wrong. (v.14)
- **Remember – We belong to Jesus, our future is secure in Him.** (v.14-15)

1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

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- **Respond with grace - showing gentleness & respect** (v15-16)

1 Peter 3:15b-16 ...But do this with gentleness and respect,¹⁶ **keeping a clear conscience**, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

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- Respond with grace - showing gentleness & respect (v15-16)
- **Our manner must reflect the message we proclaim (v.15-16)**

The BENCHMARK to follow... While we Wait

- Remember why we have hope (v.18-22)

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

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- **Just as Noah trusted God in a world facing judgement, we are called to put our trust in Jesus. (v.20-22).**

Peter's Take Away:

**Understanding who God is
shapes how we live, and how
we live should point those
around us to Jesus!**

What's YOUR Take Away?

**Will the people you're with
this week see Jesus in the
way you live?**