

# *Family Worship*

*Exiles With A Living Hope:  
A Certain Future (2)*

*30.5.2021*

# *Opening Prayer*

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

# *In Christ Alone*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=887jcen5Pec>



# *Catechism Time!*

Bible truths for teaching children

# Question 46

**Q:** What is the Lord's Supper?

**A:** Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of him.



**Bible verse (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)**

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

# Let's Open Up the Bible

1 Peter 1:1-9

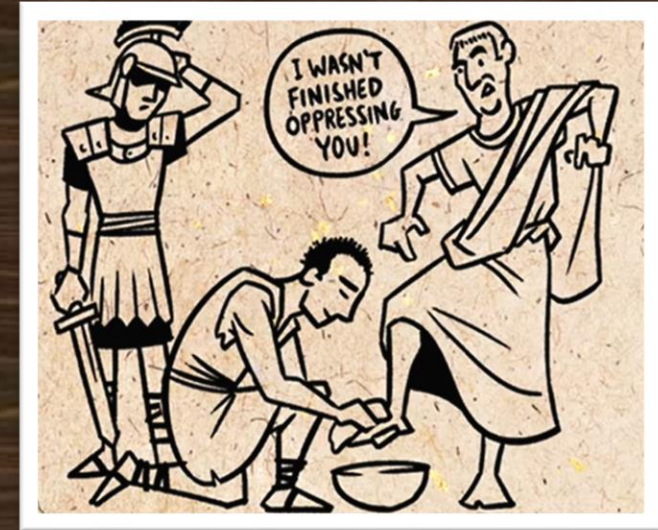
Here is a recap of last week...

# 1 Peter

Peter wrote 2 letters in the Bible: 1 & 2 Peters. We are studying the first letter (1 Peter) this season.

Peter wrote to Christians who were suffering for their faith in Jesus.

You see, Christians were not popular because they did not worship the Roman emperor. They lived godly lives when society was immoral, not following God's intentions.





# We Learnt About Ourselves

Who am I?

- I am **chosen by God** and belong to Him
- I am an **exile** and don't belong to the world



"You! Exiles!  
Move!"

What do I have?

- I have a **new life**
- I have a **living hope** because Jesus rose from death
- I have **blessings** kept for me in **heaven**



Tommy wrote:

*"As God's chosen people, we have received a new life in Jesus. As we live as exiles in this world, our permanent home is in Heaven. We have a living hope and our blessings are in Heaven (not here)!"*

So, we set our eyes on Heaven and eternity rather than here and now.



We don't belong to this world, but to the one to come.

Exiles don't expect wealth or comfort, or to be popular or have an easy life now. We are passing through. This not our permanent home.

Look at the future we have - it's amazing!!! It has so much more to offer than this world possibly could - Perfect love, perfect joy, perfect peace, perfect goodness...

Now for this week...

<sup>6</sup> This makes you very happy. But now for a short time different kinds of troubles may make you sad. <sup>7</sup> These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold. Gold can be proved to be pure by fire, but gold can be destroyed. But the purity of your faith will bring you praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ comes again. <sup>8</sup> You have not seen Christ, but still you love him. You cannot see him now, but you believe in him. You are filled with a joy that cannot be explained. And that joy is full of glory. <sup>9</sup> Your faith has a goal, to save your souls. And you are receiving that goal—your salvation.

## 1 Peter 1:6-9

<sup>6</sup> This makes you very happy. But now for a short time different kinds of troubles (trials) may make you sad. <sup>7</sup> These troubles (trials) come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold. Gold can be proved to be destroyed. But the you praise and glorify Christ comes again, but still you love him but you believe in him that cannot be explained glory. <sup>9</sup> Your faith has a goal, to save your souls. And you are receiving that goal—your salvation.



- ❑ Peter knew that the believers were having hard times. They suffered for their faith in Jesus ☹️ ☹️ ☹️
- ❑ But Peter saw their troubles differently. Their troubles actually proved that their faith was real and pure!

### Questions

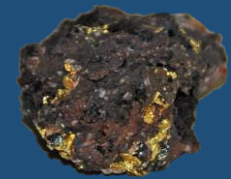
- ❑ How did their troubles prove that their faith was real and pure? (Hint: Would they be bullied if they lived like the ungodly people around them?)
- ❑ Have you ever suffered for what you believe is true?

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## Faith and Gold

- ❑ Here, Peter compares faith with gold.
- ❑ Gold is precious but must first be purified by fire to remove its impurities.



Gold nugget



Purification



Refined gold

- ❑ As fire purifies gold, troubles purify our faith, making it real (like real gold).
- ❑ Gold can be destroyed. But real faith is everlasting, bringing praise and glory and honour when Jesus comes again !!



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## What is Real Faith?

- ❑ Peter spent 3 years with Jesus. His readers never met Jesus.
- ❑ However, they had real faith - they believed and loved Jesus even without seeing him (verse 8).

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- ❑ The believers were suffering at that time. Their possessions, freedom and even their lives were **taken away** for their faith in Jesus.
- ❑ This may sound strange, but they were filled with joy!!!
- ❑ Their joy comes from knowing Jesus and being certain of their salvation. **These cannot be taken away by their oppressors!**
- ❑ So when hardship comes, **joy remains.**

# Suffering for Jesus

<https://youtu.be/OeWVhHDOggI>

- ❑ Here is someone who is suffering for his Christian faith. Rev. Dr Bernard Randall is a chaplain who worked for a school with a Christian ethos.
- ❑ When students expressed their frustration with the extreme LGBT ideology they were being taught, Dr Randall used his regular chapel sermon to encourage respect and debate so students, aged 11-17, could make up their own minds on the issue.
- ❑ The school sacked Dr Randall and reported him to Prevent, the government's counter-terrorism unit.
- ❑ So a Christian lost his job and was accused as a dangerous terrorist for speaking out his Christian belief !



The school where he was a chaplain

# Family Discussion

1. As fire purifies gold, troubles (trials) purify our faith, making it real, like real gold.

How do troubles make your faith more real? Can you share one such experience?

2. How would you encourage Rev Dr Randall? He needs lots of encouragement.

Would you consider writing Rev Dr Randall a letter to encourage him? Please tell Auntie Mag if you do. She will gather all the letters and send to Rev Dr Randall. You can include what you have learned in this lesson in your letter.

# Summary

- ❑ You and I are chosen by God. We are exiles with a living hope because Jesus rose from death!
- ❑ Suffering for Jesus makes our faith real.
- ❑ We can be joyful in our sufferings. That joy comes from knowing Jesus and being certain of our salvation.

# *Family Prayer Time*

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

# *Because He Lives*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4M-zwE33zHA>

