

Sunday, 03-17-2024

2024 Spring Quarter
Unit I: Faith-FULL versus Faith-LESS

Lesson 3: Defending Our Faith
Bible Background: 1 Peter 3:8-17
Printed Text: 1 Peter 3:8-17 KJV/NIV
Devotional Reading: 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Prayer: *Guard us, O Lord, from any thoughts or actions that might reflect pride in our hearts. Enable us to exemplify true humility in all our interactions with others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Exposition and Application of the Scripture: – Defending Our Faith – 1 Peter 3:8-17

A. Now, Be Nice! (v. 8) – p. 264

- What are the five (5) key elements Peter uses to describe what Christians are known for?
- What is my understanding of “*humility*”? – **Romans 12:1-3**
- Do I think too high or too little of myself to be effective for the Lord? – **Proverbs 6:16-19**
- Why is there strength in numbers? – **Luke 10:1-3**

B. Not That Way! (v. 9) – pp. 264-265

- Am I quick to strike back/act out if hurt/offended? – **Proverbs 14:29-31; 17:27; James 1:19**
- Can I kill someone with kindness without it being a lie”? – **Fri: Come, Let Us Argue It Out – Isaiah 1:16-20**
- Am I willing to endure suffering for blessings that I may not see in this lifetime?

C. He’s Watching You! (vv. 10-12) – pp. 265-266

- What are some ways to demonstrate I love life? – **Saturday: Live Honorably among Unbelievers – 1 Peter 2:4-12**
- Is there more than one (1) type of “*peace*”? – **Philippians 4:4-9; 2 Thessalonians 3:11-16**
- What’s the significance of using the Hebrew word for peace “*shalom*” in this text? – **Psalms 34:12-16**
- What does it mean to be righteous?

D. Are You Ready? (vv. 13-15a) – pp. 266-267

- Have I been hurt for doing good? Did I still receive God’s blessing?
- Is suffering and being in harm the same? – **2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Philippians 4:10-14**
- Can I suffer and still be true to the faith I have in Jesus? – **Monday: Proclaim God’s Message at All Times – 2 Timothy 4:1-8 (Devotional Reading)**
- The Christian’s “*fear*” is composed of what three (3) elements?

E. Do It Right (vv. 15b-17) – pp. 267-268

- Am I quick to answer or do I let the Spirit lead? – **Proverbs 15:1-4; Ecclesiastes 10:12-15**
- When asked a question about Jesus, am I arrogant/humble in response? Do I argue/debate or witness/testify? – **Thursday: A Powerful Defense of Faith – Acts 9:10-22**
- Why is it important to not argue with testimony? – **Wednesday: Proclaim What Jesus Has Done – Mark 5:1-2, 6-7, 11-20**
- Is there anything I can do to stop the possibility of suffering? – **John 16:33; Revelation 2:8-11**
- Where can I find blessings in suffering? – **Matthew 5:10-12**