

# 1 Peter 1:1-13

## Living as exiles; living in hope

Have you experienced living as a foreigner or felt like an 'outsider' where you live? What was/is difficult about it? What helps you (or helped you at the time)?

### Read Verses 1-2

Peter describes his readers with two key phrases: as 'God's elect' and 'exiles scattered throughout the provinces...'. 'Exiles' can also be translated as 'stranger' or 'foreigner' it means "staying for a while in a strange or foreign place, sojourning, residing temporarily".

- Peter's original readers would have mostly grown up in the places they lived in. Why would he describe them as 'strangers' or 'exiles'?

- According to v1-2 how have they become strangers / exiles?

What does verse 2 tell us about...

- the basis

- the means

- the purpose

... of being chosen as one of God's elect?

\*\* How does it help us as we seek to follow Jesus to know that we are both *God's elect* and *exiles* in this world?

### Read Verses 3-5

Peter praises God for the living hope we have in Christ. What does he reveal about this living hope?

*Consider...*

- How and why we have come to have such hope...

- The nature of this hope

- The confidence of our hope

## **Read Verses 6-9**

How does Peter describe the present experience of this 'living hope'?

How can it transform our experience of life's difficulties?

\*\* How have you experienced this personally, or witnessed it in someone else?

## **Read Verses 10-12**

Peter explains that the prophets from long ago spoke and wrote in the Scriptures concerning this salvation and grace that we have now come to share in.

- How does he emphasise our privileged situation in these verses? *Why* does he do this?

- How does Peter highlight the role of the Holy Spirit throughout the whole process of God revealing his salvation?

## **Read Verse 13**

How does this command relate to what Peter has said in verses 1-12?

What does it look like to live out this exhortation?

## **Reflection**

From this passage, how would you describe what it means to be a Christian?

How can the joy of your salvation help you live as exiles in this world? How can you fuel that joy?