

## **Beacon Church — from Sunday 11 February 2018**

### *LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS FOR CONNECT GROUPS FROM 1 PETER 3:1-7*

Please select a few questions to consider — do not try to cover everything in one evening. Thanks.

## **God is for us - Psalm 118:6 in the NASB**

### **Read 1 Peter 3:1-7**

The sort of control that husbands or fathers had over the wives/daughters in the Greek and Roman world was described on Sunday:

- Does anyone remember how extreme that position was?

### **People who 'hope in God' (1 Peter 3:5)**

- Who was it that 'hoped in God'? And are we sure we are supposed to imitate their good example?
- To hope in God implies that we are convinced that God is good and for us, agreed? How do we sustain ourselves in that place of faith?
- Read Romans 15:13 as read out by Nick Liddell. How does this add to our understanding of how hope and trust in the goodness of God are linked?

### **As we grow confident that God is for us, that enables us to receive his commands well**

- What commands in the Bible have you ever reacted against?
- If God is good and is for us, then whatever he commands will be for our ultimate best. Discuss.
- If we distrust God, we will tend to misread his commands and hear them as far more heavy than they really are. Discuss. Illustrate.
- Consider the commands in this passage. On Sunday Andrew showed how the command for wives to be subject to their husbands is nuanced in this very passage. Andrew listed several ideas about submission that are dismissed by this passage. Can anyone remember what was on that list?
  - Myth: submitting means having the same opinion
  - Myth: submitting means not trying to change your spouse
  - Myth: submitting means all women must submit to all men

### **Those who know God is for us, who hope in God, 'do good' (1 Peter 3:6 in ESV)**

- Belief shapes action. Discuss

### **Those who know God is for us, and who hope in God, 'do not fear any intimidation' (1 Peter 3:6)**

- Read Psalm 118:6 and Proverbs 31:25
- If this is the life you'd like, let's pray to walk in to it. And let's start using those scriptures and worship songs which proclaim that Father is good to us and for us.
- It was said that it's not possible to stop the feelings of fear arising — but we can choose whether to be paralysed by the feeling of fear, or to step out anyway. What will release us to be able to make that choice?

### **Those who know God is for us, and who hope in God, 'honour others' (1 Peter 3:7)**

- There is only one known way in which women are weaker than men: in physical strength. Honouring is not about whether another person is stronger or weaker than us. When we honour others, we acknowledge they are persons valuable in themselves, and we celebrate how they are walking into God's design for them. To honour others is to acknowledge that we need each other. To honour others is to make the Holy Spirit very at home — because the Spirit comes to honour Jesus. What habits can you cultivate to make honouring others a part of your daily life?

Andrew Ryland