

3/15/2020

Got Hope? Be Prepared

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

Always be **prepared** to give an **answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the **hope** that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Reasons for Hope:

Reason #1: Building Blocks

Romans 5:1-2 ¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Faith=>Peace=>Joy=>Hope

Reason #2: Rejoicing in Suffering

Romans 5:3-8 ³Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. ⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Suffering produces **perseverance**

which produces **character**

which produces **hope**.

God shows his love for us in an amazing way: While we were still **sinners**, Christ died for us.

Reason #3: Promises in Scripture

Proverbs 6:20-22 ²⁰My son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching. ²¹Bind them upon your heart forever; fasten them around your neck. ²²When you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.

Scripture is often best remembered when learning a **song**.

Reason #4: Your Blessings

Isaiah 40:28-31 ²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Personally identify your blessings below:
