



“Living In Two Worlds”

1 Peter 1

Small Group Plan

How do we live in two worlds, the one embedded in our hearts and the one we walk around in each day? How do we live by the standards of the first world while we make our living in the second world? How do we remain loyal to the first world when the second world is constantly attacking? How do we maintain the forward direction of the first world with all the chaotic distractions of the second world? And how can the heart and soul of the first actually grow and become stronger while living and serving in the second world?

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- How do you answer these questions?
- Which question struck closest to home?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

— ATTITUDE —

“prepare your minds for action”

1 Peter 1:13-16

¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

- What does “Therefore” refer back to? What theme is Peter now applying?
- How would you describe Peter’s tone?
- What does it mean to “live in ignorance” (v. 14)?
- Discuss how each of the following phrases requires a change of attitude:
 - “prepare your minds ...”
 - “set your hope ...”
 - “do not conform ...”
 - “be holy ...”
- Which phrase stands out to you? Explain.

— ACTION —

“live out your time as foreigners”

1 Peter 1:17-21

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

- What does it look like for us to live as “foreigners” in this second world?
- Notice how this section begins and ends with God:
 - (v.17) “you call on a Father”
 - (v. 21) “your faith and hope are in God”How does calling on God and putting our hope in God help us to live as “foreigners” while we are here in this second world?
- Describe the “empty way of life” you see around you in this second world?
- What is the “work” that we do as we “live out our time ... here” (v. 17)?
- Notice the careful contrast that Peter makes:
 - (v. 18) “not with ... ”
 - (v. 19) “but with ... ”What is he actually contrasting? Why is this an important distinction to make?

— ASSOCIATION —

“love one another deeply”

1 Peter 1:22-25

²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other love one another deeply, from the heart.

²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

- How are relationships a good place to see whether a Christian has really had a change of heart — “from the heart” (v. 22)?
- Notice that Peter makes another contrast:
 - (v. 23) “not of perishable seed”
 - (v. 23) “but of imperishable”Think of the two worlds again and describe the difference between these two kinds of seeds.

- How could the **ATTITUDES** (vs. 13-16) and the **ACTIONS** (vs. 17-21) described by Peter promote an **ASSOCIATION** (vs. 22-15) of “sincere love” (v. 22)?
- Peter links the new birth with the Word of God (vs. 23, 25).
What does Peter mean when he says this Word is “living and enduring” (v. 23) and that it “endures forever” (v. 25)?

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

- **“Be holy in all you do”** (v. 15)
How would an honest attempt to live God’s holy life change your view of yourself and your relationships with other people?
- **“Live out your time as foreigners here”** (v. 17)
Describe a life that puts down roots in this world.
Describe a life that looks forward to the next world.
- **“Love each other deeply”** (v. 22)
Peter connects being “foreigners here” and loving “one another deeply.”
When have you felt sheltered and taken care of by your spiritual family?
- Close with prayer asking God for an **ATTITUDE** that leads to spiritual **ACTION** and loving **ASSOCIATION** with your brothers and sisters.