

Sunday 11 October 2020



For those who have read the books or seen the Harry Potter films, we know that when Harry lived with his aunt and uncle he was treated badly just because he was a wizard. He was even made to sleep in the cupboard under the stairs. Harry felt he wanted to leave, this was not his home.

Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at a letter written by Peter - you remember Peter? Jesus friend? Denied knowing Jesus on the night Jesus was arrested? Well Jesus promised Peter that he would be the one who would build up the church and that is what he did!!

Peter is writing to a group of people who live in what would be modern day Turkey. They are being treated badly because they believe in Jesus.



Read: Peter's letter on page 2 (1 Peter 1:3-12)

What does God want us to learn from this passage?

I wonder what heaven is like..... You might like to draw what you think heaven will be like
I wonder what hardships the people receiving the letter were going through.....
I wonder when Jesus will return.....
I wonder what he will look like.....
Will I know it is him? Will I recognise him? Will he be happy with the life I am living?



How do you feel if someone gives you a hard time about being a Christian?
What does this passage say about that? (see verses 6-7)

You might like to do some research and find where people in the world are being persecuted for their beliefs.



Heavenly Father,
Thank you for Jesus and that through him we have new life and everything to live for.
Thank you that we have a home with you in heaven.
Keep us strong in our faith in you when others treat us badly because we believe in you.
Thank you that in Australia, we are able to worship you freely without fear.
Be with those people who can't do that and are persecuted for their religious beliefs.
Amen.

1 Peter 1:3-12

A New Life

³⁻⁵ What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you'll have it all—life healed and whole.

⁶⁻⁷ I know how great this makes you feel, even though you have to put up with every kind of aggravation in the meantime. Pure gold put in the fire comes out of it *proved* pure; genuine faith put through this suffering comes out *proved* genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it's your faith, not your gold, that God will have on display as evidence of his victory.

⁸⁻⁹ You never saw him, yet you love him. You still don't see him, yet you trust him—with laughter and singing. Because you kept on believing, you'll get what you're looking forward to: total salvation.

¹⁰⁻¹² The prophets who told us this was coming asked a lot of questions about this gift of life God was preparing. The Messiah's Spirit let them in on some of it—that the Messiah would experience suffering, followed by glory. They clamored to know who and when. All they were told was that they were serving you, you who by orders from heaven have now heard for yourselves—through the Holy Spirit—the Message of those prophecies fulfilled. Do you realise how fortunate you are? Angels would have given anything to be in on this!