

Salvation history (v10-12)

Complete the table on the previous page, adding what **v10-12** says about the past/present/future of salvation.

Why are Christians more privileged than prophets of the past, and angels?

Think: What will you do with the information you have heard about Jesus?

Here are some ideas...

- Read a gospel (eg. book of Mark or Luke) to get to know Jesus better
- Investigate Jesus' resurrection: Did he really rise from the dead?
- Talk to a Christian friend about why they love Jesus
- Decide to respond to Jesus by putting your trust in him for eternal life
- Other:

Memory verse

"In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3)

Talk outline

Wishful hope

Living hope (1:3-5)

Present trials (1:6-7)

Inexpressible joy (1:8-9)

The hope in salvation (1:10-12)

The Christian hope



A living hope

1 Peter 1:1-12

Introduction to 1 Peter

Welcome to FOCUS! This semester we will be studying the book of **1 Peter**. This is a letter, written by the apostle Peter in the mid-60s AD. Peter was one of Jesus' closest friends and an eyewitness of his life, death and resurrection. He writes to Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor.

Read 1 Peter 1:1-2.

Peter addresses his readers in two ways.

- In their *relationship to the world*, they are “strangers” or “exiles” (temporary residents).
- In their *relationship to God*, they are “elect” (chosen by God for salvation).

As we read this letter, we will see how being saved by God gives people a new identity, hope, and perspective on living in this world. For Christians, heaven is their true and permanent home.

Icebreaker

Discuss: Share a time when you have endured short-term pain for the sake of long-term gain. What kept you going through the hard times?

Read 1 Peter 1:3-12.

Are there any difficult words here?

The certainty of salvation (v3-5)

Why would Christians want to praise God?

What's so special about this future inheritance (v4)?

Rank the following items in order of their “perishability” (how long they will last):



- bottle of milk
- banana
- gold ring

- tree
- car
- Christians' inheritance



How can Christians be certain of this future hope?

- v3**
- v4**
- v5**

Suffering and salvation (v6-9)

Read through **v3-9** and note what this passage tells us about the past, present and future of salvation.

Past	Present	Future

Why can Christians rejoice in grief and trials?

Some people pay a heavy price for becoming a Christian. Why would people do that?

What are some “costs”, or worries, that might stop you from becoming a Christian? How would Peter answer these?

Where is your hope?

