



# Wives & husbands

1 Peter 3:1-7

## The letter so far...

This semester we are reading 1 Peter – a letter from the apostle Peter, to Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor in the mid-60s AD. So far we've learned that the way we respond to Jesus will determine our eternal future. We've learnt about what it means to be a Christian: having a certain hope of heavenly inheritance, being part of a loving family, growing through God's word and making God known to others. As "foreigners" in the world, Christians are to follow the example of Jesus in living and relating to the rest of the world. Today we'll read about how being a Christian affects marriage.

## Icebreaker

What do you think are the important ingredients for a good marriage? (Think of married people you know whose example has inspired or encouraged you. What is it about their relationship that has impressed you?)

## Marriage by the book

Our passage today continues a section which began at 1 Peter 2:11.

**Read 1 Peter 2:11-17** to refresh your memory.

**Now read 1 Peter 3:1-7.**

Complete the table.

Who is Peter speaking to?	What instructions does he give them?	What reasons/motivations are given for doing this?
<b>v1-6</b>		
<b>v7</b>		



**Sarah** was the wife of Abraham, the ancestor of all the people of Israel. Together they left their homeland to follow God's promises (see Genesis 12-21).

How would your culture agree or disagree with this passage?

Does this passage challenge your own ideas about marriage?

What kind of beauty does God value?

How is this different to what our society values?

In v1-2, Peter is talking about a situation where a husband, who does not believe the message of Jesus, changes his mind because of the behaviour of his Christian wife.

Maybe you don't believe in Jesus yet, or still have many questions.

Have you observed anything about the behaviour of Christians that you know, that has had a powerful impact on you?

What is your response to this Christian teaching about marriage?

## Memory verse

Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. **(1 Peter 3:3-4)**