

LIFEgroups

Open

Go around and let everyone answer...

Would you describe yourself as someone who tends to see rules more as general guidelines, or as someone who obeys a rule because it is a rule?

Explain why you say that.

DIG

In this part of his letter, Peter gives the believers imperatives for living a faithful life. Look for them as you [read 1 Peter 1:13-19](#)

Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. 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, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ^(NIV)

Describe what people today would be like if they lived out these commands.

What effect do believers have on the world when they live this way?

Peter also explains motivations for choosing this life of obedience. What reasons does he give?

APPLY

Which of these reasons to obey that Peter listed do you find most compelling for your own life choices?

What helps you continue living this holy life Peter talks about?

In what specific ways can we better encourage each other to live the life Peter describes here?

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Leader

Big Idea

Obedience to basic spiritual principles brings great blessings to anyone who wants to pursue godliness.

Acceptance

Group ministry has a great impact because it gives people a place to belong, to be accepted, and also to be challenged. This balance is important. While Christ loves every person enough to accept him or her wherever they are, he loves them too much to leave them where they are. For that reason we are challenged to identify and obey commands that lead to spiritual growth. Create an atmosphere of acceptance, but balance it with a challenge to grow more like Christ.

Group Reminder

Most groups grow through cycles where participation and excitement will be higher or lower. Sometimes these rhythms are related to the time of year or individual schedule challenges of people in the group. Be patient with the cycles and do not give up when momentum shifts in the group. Maintain a consistent schedule and make sure every person knows when and where the group is meeting. A weekly reminder by text, email, social media, or phone is a great way to make sure people feel connected even when schedules are crazy.