

## PRAY

1. Leaders in worship: Pastor Bob Bolander, Brandon Ramey & the Worship Ministry.
2. God will meet with us through His word and by His Spirit, lead us to worship Christ and grow in Christ-likeness.
3. God will help us to be a church of zeal and hope, passionate about ministry and confident in His promises.
4. God will make us more passionate about and obedient to His mission of leading people to trust and follow Christ.

## MUSIC

### PRELUDE MUSIC

#### Excellent Lord

by Miiya Hawkins, Walter Hawkins

### CORPORATE SINGING

#### Everlasting God

by William Murphy

#### The Lion and The Lamb

by Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, and Leeland Mooring

### TIME OF PRAYER

#### No Sweeter Name

by Kari Jobe

#### It Is Well

by Horatio Gates Spafford, Phillip Bliss, David Shipp

## PREPARE FOR THE MESSAGE

The Key to Enduring Suffering | 1 Peter 3:13-17

Pastor Bob Bolander

Pastor Bob will continue our series through 1 Peter this Sunday by leading us through 3:13-17, where Peter continues to provide instructions for how Christians should respond to hostility from the world.

Prepare for Sunday by reading this passage several times. Consider especially the calls to action in this passage: "in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for the reason for the hope that is in you." What does obeying these commands look like and what do these commands assume? What is the point behind Peter's question in verse 13?

## LYRICS

### Everlasting God

#### VERSE 1

The Lord is my light and salvation  
Whom shall I fear?  
Whom shall I be afraid? [x2]

I will wait on You,  
I will wait on You,  
I will trust in You,  
I will trust in You

#### CHORUS

I will remain confident in this  
I will see the goodness of the Lord [x2]

#### VERSE 2

The Lord is my light and salvation  
Whom shall I fear?  
Whom shall I be afraid? [x2]

I will wait on You,  
I will wait on You,  
I will trust in You,  
I will trust in You

#### CHORUS

#### BRIDGE

We set our hope on You  
We set our hope on Your love  
We set our hope on the One  
Who is the Everlasting God  
You are the Everlasting God,  
You are the Everlasting [X4]

#### CHORUS

### The Lion And The Lamb

#### VERSE 1

He's coming on the clouds  
Kings and kingdoms will bow down  
And every chain will break  
As broken hearts declare His praise  
For who can stop the Lord almighty

#### CHORUS

Our God is The Lion The Lion of Judah  
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles  
And every knee will bow before Him  
Our God is The Lamb The Lamb that was slain  
For the sins of the world His blood breaks the chains  
And every knee will bow before  
The Lion and the Lamb  
Every knee will bow before Him

#### VERSE 2

So open up the gates  
Make way before the King of kings  
The God who comes to save  
Is here to set the captives free  
For who can stop the Lord almighty

#### BRIDGE

Who can stop the Lord almighty  
Who can stop the Lord almighty  
Who can stop the Lord almighty  
Who can stop the Lord almighty

#### CHORUS

## RESPOND TO THE SERMON

## Sunday, Sep. 30 "Living A Blessed Life In A Bitter World"

1 Peter 3:8-12 | Rickey Primrose

**Truth:** Peacemakers enjoy a blessed life within a bitter world. We live in a world steeped in bitterness and anger. Watching TV news or spending time on social media regularly confirms this. Unfortunately, this is often a problem of the church also. Bitterness produces a vengeful spirit that desires retaliation. Peter calls us to live as peacemakers instead of seeking vengeance.

**Truth:** Peacemakers cultivate brotherly affection toward their church family. The five qualities Peter lists are not obtainable by those outside the church; therefore, we know he is addressing the church. If we cannot respond as peacemakers when our brothers and sisters mistreat us, we can never live as peacemakers when the world sins against us. The central quality he calls us to is "brotherly love."

**Respond:** Prayerfully examine how you feel about your brothers and sisters in the church. Are you cultivating affection in your heart toward all of them? Including those who are different ethnically, generationally, and otherwise?

**Truth:** Peacemakers display kind actions toward their greatest enemies. We will be sinned against in this world. Peter says we should respond, not as the world responds, with retaliation, but as peacemakers, with blessing. When someone speaks evil to you, or about you, develop the habit of immediately going to God in prayer. After praying, think of a kind action that you can display toward that person—and do it.

**Response:** How have you blessed people who have sinned against you? Think of a recent occasion when your natural desire was to harbor a grudge. Choose now to forgive and bless the person involved in surrender to the Word of God.

**Truth:** Peacemakers seek God's nearness over personal fulfillment. The blessing we obtain when we display kindness is the nearness and presence of God. God draws near to the peacemaker. A blessed life is not one free of conflict but one that enjoys the nearness of God.

**Response:** How do you respond when someone sins against you? Do you seek personal fulfillment by retaliating or do you respond as a peacemaker by blessing them in your words and actions? Who is it that the Lord is bringing to your mind that you need to make peace with? Pray that God will give you the strength of commitment to repay evil with good, knowing that you will bless their lives, and God will bless you.

## FAMILY RESPONSE

## Sunday, Sep. 23 "Understand Your Wife"

1 Peter 3:7 | Rickey Primrose

**Truth:** Peacemaking is hard work because it challenges the nature of our human instincts; the hurts we receive are very real, and vengeance is genuinely satisfying for a moment. The culture around us relegates "peace" to keeping your nose out of other people's business and pretending like you aren't really hurt when your emotions are in turmoil. The Bible is not ignorant of our dilemma, so God clearly addresses our need for instruction. Be a peacemaker by encouraging an environment of affection not vengeance, use actions to display your choice to pursue peace not bitterness, and seek what pleases God not your sin nature.

**Response:** Which one of you would choose a household full of bitterness over a household full of peace? I know what you would say, but does the temperament of your home match that answer. For me, a good way to evaluate is to watch and listen to my sons interact with one another because they've learned from me how to handle conflict and disappointment. Do they listen to one another with empathy? Are they willing to admit a wrong action or perception? Do they go out of their way to restore relationships with generosity or service? Do they connect a healthy relationship with God to a healthy relationship with each other?