

# Wild Hope

**1 Peter 2:13-25**



## ***MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details***

4. What questions come to mind as you read this section? List at least one question for each verse. Use the 5 W's and the H to begin your questions (Who, What, When, Where Why and How)

13-

14-

15-

16-

17-

18-

19-

20-

21-

22-

23-

24-

25-

5. Pick two or three of the questions from above that most appeal to you and attempt to find answers for them. (This website may be helpful:  
<http://bible.crosswalk.com/>)

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 2:13-25**



## ***MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details***

6. In I Peter 2:18-25, Peter uses the example of Christ as a model for us when we are unjustly treated by someone who has authority over us. How are we to respond? Does this mean we should be doormats and let people walk all over us? (Consider Paul's example in Acts 16:35-40; Acts 22:22-29)

What is the balance between claiming your rights and accepting persecution as Paul did on many other occasions?

7. In Christ's suffering he did not retaliate but entrusted himself to the justice of God (I Peter 2:23). What does that mean?

# Aliens in this World

## From a Friend's Last Look – “Kim” – North Korea 2001

Kim had come home, unable to speak. His mother could tell he was in shock and sat with him, soothing him and trying to find out what had happened. Finally he began to open up to her.

“I was with one of my best friends today when two police officers approached us. They grabbed my friend and accused him of being a Christian. One of the officers knocked him to the ground while the other took out his gun. My friend didn't get angry or curse anyone. He...he didn't even try to defend himself.

“Even as the gun was pointed directly at him, his face remained peaceful. He looked straight into my eyes, and without speaking a word, I knew exactly what he was saying. He wanted me to believe the same thing he did. And then he just said, ‘Bless them.’” He was executed right in front of me – because he was a Christian. I do not even know what a Christian is. I don't understand any of this.” Kim's mother held his head in her hands. There were tears in her eyes. Now it was she who was in shock. She then told him simply, “I understand.”

“How could you possibly understand why they would kill my friend?”

She slowly began to tell her son about her Lord Jesus Christ, how He had miraculously been born of a virgin and crucified on a cross to save all those who would believe in Him. As she continued sharing with her eldest son, she began to sob. Now it was she who couldn't go on. She felt the pain of never daring to tell her son about Jesus Christ, lest his fate would be like that of his friend. She also felt the overwhelming joy of knowing that God had not forgotten her son, but allowed someone else to bring him the Gospel.

Finally she told him, “God allowed you to witness the martyrdom of one of His brave children. As those bullets hit his heart, a seed of hope was planted in yours.” The son prayed that night and received Jesus Christ into his heart. He was filled with joy as he embraced his mother and thanked her for telling him the truth. But suddenly he began to weep again and appeared distraught. Confused, the mother asked, “Now what's wrong?”

“My brothers,” Kim cried, “they do not know Jesus. We must tell them!” His three brothers soon came home and discovered their older brother and mother crying together. Their first thought was that something terrible had happened to their father, and they quickly knelt down beside their mother, asking what was wrong. With unnatural boldness the eldest son stood up and responded, “You should also receive Jesus Christ.” Before the evening had passed, all three had done exactly that. The mother was filled with joy! Although she had never dared to speak to her children about her Christian faith, she had diligently prayed for them everyday. Now that her children had accepted Jesus, she began cautiously looking for a Bible. But she could not find any.

Eventually her oldest son secretly crossed the Yalu River into China in search of Bibles. You can imagine the look on his face when he finally came across a miniature Bible in the Korean language. He pleaded with the Christians in China, asking how he could obtain some of those Bibles. Regrettably no more were available. Refusing to admit defeat, he told the Christians the dramatic story of how he had witnessed his friend's death and how he and his brothers had learned of Jesus Christ. Before departing for North Korea, he said, “I am in need of five thousand of these Bibles to share with my family and others in North Korea. I will be back in one month to pick them up.”

Hearing of the request, some Christian workers hurriedly printed five thousand copies of the miniature Korean Bibles. Over the next year or so, Kim returned on several occasions to smuggle the Bibles back across the border. All four of these brothers are now actively sharing their faith, knowing firsthand the consequences if they are discovered. Since their last pickup of these Bibles some months ago, no one has heard further news of them.

Transformation. Change. In an instant, by the touch of God, a life can be changed. There is more to life than they had ever imagined. They are not alone. There is a God who loves them and He is truth. In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, the world is different. It is like everything just went from black and white to color, like suddenly they can see when they were blind before, like they were in prison and now have been set free. Such change is both instant and incremental; it is this that makes a person a revolutionary for Christ—someone willing to risk it all for the Truth. While change often comes in leaps, as it did for Kim and his family, it will also take them a lifetime to work out what has happened in their hearts. They will do this by becoming revolutionaries in their society, smuggling the Truth to as many as they can, working a “resistance” of the world system to find those whose hearts are ready for the Gospel, and working against those who would control how they think, behave, and believe.

People who aren't convinced that what they believe is the Truth don't do such things.

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 2:13-25**



## **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. Peter witnessed firsthand the suffering of our Lord and it was so intense that because of fear he denied he even knew Jesus. In this portion of Scripture we are studying Peter quotes a verse from Isaiah 53. Turn back to Isaiah 52:13-53:12. What does the prophet Isaiah tell us about the unjust suffering God's servant (Jesus Christ - His Son) would experience?

Who was the ultimate cause of his unjust suffering? (See Isaiah 53:4-6)



## **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. Consider the different authorities in your life (parents, school, job, government, spiritual). How are you responding to them? Do you need to make any changes?
2. Read I Timothy 2:1,2. Who are your governing authorities? Do you know their names? Do you make it a regular practice to pray for them? Stop right now and pray for men and women in government.

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 3:1-14**

TITLE

**A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:**

**I Peter 3:8**



## **TELESCOPE - The Big Picture**

1. Read I Peter 3:1-14 five times.
2. What title did you give this section? (Look back at page 1.) Write the title you chose for this section (or a new one you prefer) in the rectangular box above.



## **MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details**

1. Look at I Peter 3:1-6. What does Peter tell wives to do in response to the authority of their husbands? Wives are told to submit in the same way that he encouraged slaves and citizens to submit (See I Peter 2:13-25). How do you respond to this? Why would this be difficult for a woman? How could a man abuse this command to control his wife? How are men to treat their wives? (I Peter 3:7) How do these two teachings balance each other?
2. Are the commands of I Peter 3:1-7 still true for us today? What advantages would there be for you if you married someone who walked according to the truths of I Peter 3:1-7? How would committing yourself to this kind of spouse resolve conflict in the home?

# Wild Hope

## I Peter 3:1-14



### **MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details**

3. What is the submissive wife's view of God? (I Peter 3:2-6) What keeps her from fear? (I Peter 3:6) Look at Sarah's (verse 6) in the Old Testament. Read Genesis 20. How did God protect Sarah even though her husband was being disobedient (I Peter 3:1)? Is there ever a time when a wife should not submit to her husband? What in a wife motivates a husband to obedience?

4. What is the considerate husband's view of God? (I Peter 3:7) In other words, how will mistreating his wife affect his relationship with God?

"Peter did not suggest that a wife is "the weaker partner" mentally, morally or spiritually, but rather physically. There are exceptions of course, but generally speaking, the man is the stronger of the two when it comes to physical accomplishments." Warren W. Wiersbe • Be Hopeful

What are some ways a husband could be considerate of his wife physically, spiritually and emotionally?

# 1 Peter 3:1-14



- # Aliens in this World

# Aliens in this World

## **"If you only knew Jesus" Felicitas and her 7 sons. Rome AD 161**

To both, Felicitas's words were frank and direct: "You do not move me with either your flattering words and promises nor am I intimidated by your threats; because I have experienced in my own heart the workings of the Holy Spirit who gives me a living power and prepares me for the struggles of torture so that I can endure anything that you might do to me and hold fast to the confession of my faith."

Seeing that he was wasting his time to push them further at this point, Publius then sent them away to think over their decisions. The next morning he summoned them as he sat in the square before the temple of Mars.

From here he took a different tack. "Very well, then, Felicitas, if you are satisfied to die, then die alone, but have a mother's pity and compassion on your sons and instruct them at least to save their own lives by sacrificing to the gods."

Felicitas bristled at this. "Your 'compassion' is pure wickedness! And your advice is nothing but cruelty, for if my sons sacrifice to the gods, they will not save their lives but surrender them to the hellish fiends who are your gods! They would become their slaves and be chained in darkness for everlasting fire." Then she turned to her sons. "Remain steadfast in your faith and in your confession. Jesus and His saints are waiting for you in heaven. Therefore, fight bravely for your souls and show that you are faithful in the love of Christ, the love with which He loves you and you Him."

"Woman!" the prefect interrupted. "How dare you defiantly encourage your sons to defy the commands of the emperor under my very nose! Isn't it better that you instruct them to obedience rather than rebelliousness?"

But Felicitas knew what she was saying and what kind of death would probably result from her boldness. Yet she still persisted. Rather than condemning the prefect, though, she turned to him tenderly and bravely to try to ring him to the Truth. "Prefect, if you only knew our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the power of His divinity and majesty, you would know better than to try to draw us away from Him, and you would stop this persecution! You would know that we cannot curse Him or turn away from Him, for anyone who curses Christ and His faithful ones curses God Himself, who by faith lives in our hearts."

At this the guard that stood by her turned to her and struck her hard with his fist across her mouth, hoping to silence her, but even at this she continued to warn her sons against denying their faith and to fear neither torture nor painful death, as these were nothing compared to an eternity with Jesus in heaven.

Publius had Felicitas and her sons taken away, then brought each of the young men back one by one to question them privately. Yet whatever he promised or threatened, none of them would turn from Jesus.

Frustrated at his failure, he sent a note to the emperor that they all remained obstinate in their confession of Jesus. The emperor then sentenced them all to die at the hands of different executioners, and that Felicitas would die last of all, after she had watched each of her sons die first. Over the next four months these sentences were carried out.

Januarius, the eldest, went first while the others were forced to watch. He was scourged with a whip made up of cords that had a small ball of lead at the end of each strand. He was beaten with this on the back, neck, sides, and any other fleshly part of the body the torturer could reach with the scourge until he no longer moved.

Felix and Philippus, the next two oldest, followed. They were beaten to death with rods.

Sylvanus was tossed down from a great height.

The youngest three, Alexander, Vitalus, and Martialis, were each brought before their mother separately and beheaded. Last of all, with tears glistening in her eyes at both the pain of watching her sons die and the anticipation of soon being with them again before Christ, Felicitas was beheaded with a sword. \*\*\*\*\*

It is one thing to believe in a cause so much that we are willing to die for it, but it is quite another to believe in it so much that we would let others suffer and die for it, especially if they are our own children and family. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16



# Wild Hope

7. Pick two or three of the questions from the previous page that most appeal to you and attempt to find answers for them. (This website may be helpful: <http://bible.crosswalk.com/>)

## I Peter 3:1-14



### **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. In I Peter 3:10-12 are verses that Peter quotes from Psalm 34. Turn to Psalm 34 and read through it. David wrote this Psalm after he pretended to be insane before the Philistine King Abimelech (Abimelech was the title of the monarch like Pharaoh in Egypt) (The monarch's name was Achish), see I Samuel 21:10-15. David did this out of fear. From Psalm 34 what did David conclude was the proper response to God in difficulty?



### **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. Read I Peter 3:8-14. How are we supposed to treat each other as brothers and sisters in Christ? When Christians are in close fellowship with each other they will inevitably wound each other. What does Peter tell us to do in those situations? Is there a brother or sister in Christ that you need to forgive or ask to forgive you? When will you talk to them?

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 3:15-22  
4:1-6**

TELE

**A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:**

**I Peter 3:15**



## **TELESCOPE - The Big Picture**

1. Read I Peter 3:15-22; 4:1-6 five times.
2. What title did you give this section? (Look back at page 1.) Write the title you chose for this section (or a new one you prefer) in the rectangular box above.



## **MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details**

1. Read I Peter 3:15-17. What does it mean to set Christ apart as Lord in your heart? Why must you do that before declare your hope in Christ?

If someone asked you about your faith could you explain the gospel clearly to them? If not, what can you do to learn to share your faith?

What is to be your attitude as you share your faith with others? How important is the testimony of your life?

2. Look back at I Peter 3:13,14. Verse 14 is a quotation from Isaiah 8. Turn back to Isaiah 8 and read verses 11 to 17. What themes do you find here that are also in I Peter? The number one hindrance for most of us in sharing our faith is our fear of people. From Isaiah 8 who are we to fear? How does this fear overcome the fear of man?

# Aliens in this World

## **"I would rather die than leave the Church" – selected quote**

It has oft been said that fear is the opposite of faith. As faith motivates us toward something, fear makes us cower away from it. Faith in ourselves is key to all endeavors; fear of failure often leads to not trying something in the first place. Faith in God frees us to talk about Him; fear of man keeps our mouths shut worrying about what others will think.

Faith liberates. Fear incapacitates. However, there is one type of fear that does free us; the fear of God. In this modern era where we want to call Jesus our friend and think of God as our helper, the concept of the fear of the Lord gets explained away in a lot of different ways as a healthy respect for God or an awe and reverence for who He is. But the fear of God is more than that. It is not a fear like the fear of heights or the fear of getting mugged along a dark street. It is a revelation of who God really is in all of His power as the creator of the universe. It is a revelation of the God to whom the devil and all of his forces are an insignificant bother. It is the fear that Jesus talked about in Matthew 10:28 when He told us not to fear those who can kill the body and not the soul, but fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

If we have this fear of God, who is on our side, then how can we ever fear what people might think? How can we ever disobey Him for fear of what others might do? How can we really fear anything on this earth ever again? Strange as it may sound, the fear of God sets us free from fear itself.

Jesus is the Liberator. Faith in Him, and holy fear of Him, enables us to try what others have called impossible.

3. Write down as many observations as you can make from this passage. Be alert for: commands, key words, reasons, contrasts, repetition, questions, and word pictures.

4. What questions come to mind as you read this section? List at least one question for each verse. Use the 5 W's and the H to begin your questions (Who, What, When, Where Why and How)

3:15-

16-

17-

18-

19-

20-

21-

22-

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 3:15-22**

**4:1-6**

4. (Continued)

4: 1-

2-

3-

4-

5-

6-

5. Pick two or three of the questions from the previous page that most appeal to you and attempt to find answers for them. (This website may be helpful: <http://bible.crosswalk.com/>)

6. Read I Peter 3:18. Peter shares the example of Christ who is the supreme picture of doing right and suffering for righteousness sake. How does I Peter 3:18 explain the gospel?

7. Read I Peter 3:19-21. This is a very difficult passage with many suggested interpretations. When encountering a passage like this it is important to ask yourself some key questions as you seek to understand it. Here are a few. 1. What do other Scriptures say about this topic? 2. What does it mean in the context of the passage where it is found? 3. What do the key or significant words in the passage mean?

Two plausible explanation for the meaning of this passage are these:

(1) In the New Testament, the word "spirits" is used to describe angels or demons, not human beings... nowhere in the Bible are we told that Jesus visited hell. Acts 2:31 states that He went to "Hades" NASB but "Hades" is not hell. The word "Hades" refers to the realm of the dead, a temporary place where they await resurrection...(see Revelation 20:11, 15) Hell is the permanent and final place

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 3:15-22  
4:1-6**

## 7. (Continued)

of judgment for the lost. Hades is the temporary place. When a Christian dies, he goes to neither place, but to heaven to be with Christ (Philippians 1:20-24).

...The word translated 'preached' simply means "to announce as a herald, to proclaim." It is not the word that means to preach the gospel... Peter did not tell us what Jesus proclaimed to these imprisoned spirits, but it could not be a message of redemption since angels cannot be saved (Hebrews 2:16). It was probably a declaration of victory over Satan and his hosts. (See I Peter 3:22 and Colossians 2:15.)

Taken from **"Be Hopeful"** • Warren W. Wiersbe

(2) I understand the spirits in prison to be... human beings who were disobedient during the period of Noah's preaching... I suggest that Noah's suffering in being the butt of ridicule during his day may also be in Peter's mind, and that his suffering was also Jesus' suffering in his preincarnate state (before He was born on earth), since Noah's preaching was really Jesus preaching through Noah (see II Peter 2:5). Peter may regard our suffering as Jesus' suffering (see Colossians 1:24) and our preaching (ideally at least) as Jesus preaching to our generation...

Peter's use of this incident also makes sense in light of the fact that whenever such proclamation takes place there are two results - the condemnation of those who refuse the message and the salvation of those who receive it."

**The Books of James and First and Second Peter**, Twenty-First Century Biblical Commentary Series, William Baker, Mal Couch & Ed Hindson, General Editors, AMG Publishers

*("Bear this in mind. Frequently difficult passages like this are difficult because the writer and his original readers had some common facts in their minds that have been lost to the modern reader.")* William Baker, *ibid*

Does either interpretation seem possible to you?

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 3:15-22**

**4:1-6**

8. Read I Peter 3:20-22. How does Peter use Noah and the ark as an analogy of baptism? Is Peter saying that baptism saves you? How does verse 21 help you with this question? Why should a believer get baptized? (See Matthew 28:18-20).

Baptism is a significant step in the life of a believer. It is especially important in countries that are not “Christian” in heritage. When I ministered in Japan many relatives of a new believer did not take their new found faith seriously until they were baptized. One young woman I knew of was thrown out of her family because she was baptized. Baptism as a public testimony of a person’s faith in Christ can cause the kind of suffering Peter speaks of in I Peter.



## **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. Read I Peter 4:1-6. What was your life like before you came to know Christ? How has Christ changed you? When you discontinued your pre-Christian behavior how were you treated by those you associate with? After coming to Christ it would be easier to just not associate with those who do not know Christ so that you wouldn’t be ridiculed. Is this what Peter is advocating? Why or why not?



## **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. There are many reasons Christians have for not sharing their faith. The most common reason is fear. Make a list of the 5-10 factors that keep you from sharing Christ. Discuss these in your Bible study and you can overcome them.
2. Have you ever seen a milk carton or a grocery bag with a picture of a missing child on it? Imagine if you were a frantic parent of one of those children. How would you feel? Think about the lost people you know, how does God feel about them? (see II Peter 3:9)

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 4:7-19**

TITLE

**A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:**

**I Peter 4:19**



## **TELESCOPE - The Big Picture**

1. Read I Peter 4:7-19 five times.
2. What title did you give this section? (Look back at page 1.) Write the title you chose for this section (or a new one you prefer) in the rectangular box above.



## **MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details**

1. Look at I Peter 4:7-11. What should characterize our fellowship with one another?
2. In I Peter 4:10,11, Peter encourages us to minister through the gift(s) God has given us. How has God gifted you to minister to others? Look at these two passages which list gifts God gives to members of the body of Christ. (I Corinthians 12:1-11; Romans 12:3-8). Have you seen God use you in any of these ways in the lives of other believers? How do you discover your spiritual gift(s)?

A Christian prisoner in Cuba was asked to sign a statement containing charges against fellow Christians that would lead to their arrest. He said: "The chain keeps me from signing this." The Communist officer protested, "But you are not in chains!" "I am," said the Christian. "I am bound by the chain of witnesses who throughout the centuries gave their lives for Jesus Christ. I am a link in this chain. I will not break it."

# Wild Hope

## 1 Peter 4:7-19

3. Write down as many observations as you can make from this passage. Be alert for: commands, key words, reasons, contrasts, repetition, questions, and word pictures.

4. What questions come to mind as you read this section? List at least one question for each verse. Use the 5 W's and the H to begin your questions (Who, What, When, Where Why and How)

7-

8-

9-

10-

11-

12-

13-

14-

15-

16-

17-

18-

19-

5. Pick two or three of the questions from above that most appeal to you and attempt to find answers for them. (This website may be helpful: <http://bible.crosswalk.com/>)



# Wild Hope

## I Peter 4:7-19

6. Read I Peter 4:12-16. When difficulty, trial or suffering comes into our lives we are often surprised and question God's goodness or if He is in control. How does a believer rejoice in their suffering? Why are we encouraged to be joyful in trial? If you are experiencing trial and struggling how can you rejoice?

Polycarp was the Bishop of Smyrna about the middle of the second century. He was arrested for his faith and threatened with death if he did not recant. "Eighty and six years have I served Him," the saintly Bishop replied, "and He never did me any injury. How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"

"I have respect for your age," said the Roman officer. "Simply say, 'Away with the atheists!' and be set free." By "the atheists" he meant the Christians who would not acknowledge that Caesar was "lord."

The old man pointed to the crowd of Roman pagans surrounding him, and cried, "Away with the atheists!" He was burned at the stake and in his martyrdom brought glory to the name of Jesus Christ.

**Warren W. Wiersbe • *Be Hopeful***

# Wild Hope

## I Peter 4:7-19



### **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. Read I Peter 4:17-19. In this passage Peter discusses the difficulties in a believer's life, many of these can be very severe. What do these passages say about the suffering of Christians? (I Corinthians 12:26; Philippians 1:29; I Thessalonians 1:6; II Thessalonians 1:4; James 1:2-4; Hebrews 12:5-11) If God allows believers to suffer to bring about His purposes, what will be the severity of the suffering for those who do not obey God? (I Peter 4:17,18)
2. How does I Peter 4:19 summarize the proper response to suffering?



### **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. Look back at question 2 in this study. How has God called you to serve in the body of Christ? What is one thing you can do in the next couple of weeks to encourage a fellow believer?
2. When a believer goes through severe trial or suffering their confidence in God can be extremely shaken. When the circumstances of life just don't make sense how do you trust God?

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 5:1-14**

TITLE

**A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:**

**I Peter 5:10,11**



## **TELESCOPE - The Big Picture**

1. Read I Peter 5:1-14 five times.
2. What title did you give this section? (Look back at page 1.) Write the title you chose for this section (or a new one you prefer) in the rectangular box above.



## **MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details**

1. Consider I Peter 5:1-4. How does Peter describe Christians leadership? Look at Peter's call into leadership (Read John 21:15-17). What does it mean to lead like a shepherd? (See also John 10:11-18) What does it mean to "lord it over" those entrusted to you? (See Luke 22:25-27) Who is every spiritual shepherd responsible to? ( verse 4)
2. Read I Peter 5:5-7. What is to be our response to our spiritual leaders? What is the proper response if we disagree with one of our spiritual leaders? (See Hebrews 13:7,17) Does this mean you always follow a leader no matter what? What's the balance?

# Wild Hope

## 1 Peter 5:1-14

3. Write down as many observations as you can make from this passage. Be alert for: commands, key words, reasons, contrasts, repetition, questions, and word pictures.

4. What questions come to mind as you read this section? List at least one question for each verse. Use the 5 W's and the H to begin your questions (Who, What, When, Where Why and How)

- 1-
- 2-
- 3-
- 4-
- 5-
- 6-
- 7-
- 8-
- 9-
- 10-
- 11-
- 12-
- 13-
- 14-

5. Pick two or three of the questions from above that most appeal to you and attempt to find answers for them. (This website may be helpful: <http://bible.crosswalk.com/>)

# Wild Hope

## I Peter 5:1-14

6. Read I Peter 5:8,9. What is Satan's goal for every believer? How do we resist him? (See James 4:7,8; Ephesians 6:10-19; Matthew 4:1-11) How does Satan use conflict between spiritual leaders and those younger in the faith to cause trouble? (see Hebrews 12:14,15)

"The secret police greatly persecuted the underground church, because they recognized in it the only effective resistance left. It was just the kind of resistance (a spiritual resistance) which, if left unhindered, would undermine their atheistic power. They recognized, as only the devil can, an immediate threat to them. They knew if a man believed in Christ he would never be a mindless, willing subject. They knew they could imprison the physical body, but they couldn't imprison a person's spirit – their faith in God. And so they fought very hard.

–Richard Wurmbrand

Founder of the Voice of the Martyrs

Spent fourteen years in a communist prison in Romania  
1940's, '50's, and 60's



### **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. In I Peter 5:9 it says that believers all over the world are suffering. Bible historians tell us that more believers died for their faith in the 20th century than all of the other 19 centuries combined. We believers in America often pray thanking God we aren't persecuted but how often do we pray for the persecuted church? Get on [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com) and find out about some believers in the suffering church. Take some time to stop and pray for them.
2. Read I Peter 5:10,11. Why are these verses a good summary of everything Peter has said in the book of I Peter?

# Wild Hope

**I Peter 5:1-14**



## **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. Read I Peter 5:12-13. How do you stand fast in the grace of God? Even if you suffer for Christ you still need grace to be accepted by Him (Ephesians 2:8,9). How does God's unconditional acceptance of you in Christ enable you to stand firm?
2. Every one of us struggles with pride to one degree or another. How can you become a person who humbles themselves under God's mighty hand? (I Peter 5:5,6) Why do we get anxious when we humbly wait on God? What should we do instead? (I Peter 5:7)

# Wild Hope

## Summary



### TELESCOPE - The Big Picture

1. Go back to the first lesson in this study. Look at your titles for each of the sections on page 1. Have you changed any of them? What titles would you give these sections now?

I Peter 1:1-12

I Peter 1:13-25

I Peter 2:1-12

I Peter 2:13-25

I Peter 3:1-14

I Peter 3:15-22, 4:1-6

I Peter 4:7-19

I Peter 5:1-14

2. After having studied I Peter what would you say is the key message of the book?

# Wild Hope

## Summary

3. Is there a verse or groups of verses that you think best summarizes the book?



### ***MICROSCOPE - The Individual Details***

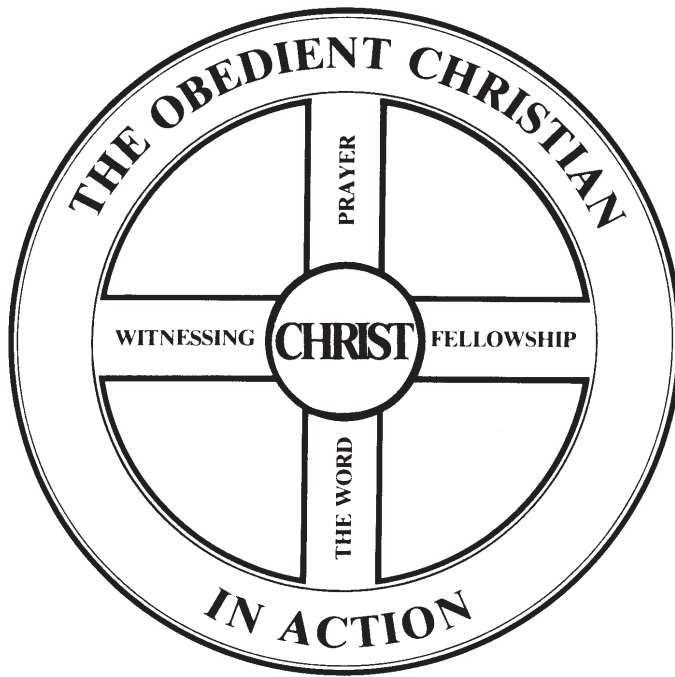
1. Look back over your study. What were your key lessons from I Peter?



# Wild Hope

## Summary

2. Look back again through your study. What did you learn about these areas of the Christian life highlighted in the Wheel Illustration?



Christ the Center

Obedience to Christ

The Word

Prayer

Fellowship

Witnessing

# Wild Hope

## Summary

3. Are there any passages in I Peter that you still don't understand that you could do further study on?

### ✱ **KALEIDOSCOPE - The Incredible Wonder**

1. Think back over your study of I Peter. Did any of the passages inspire you to worship? Did any move you deeply? What other emotions did you experience? Did your heart burn within you like the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:32)?
2. Would you say any of the passages you studied or the discussions you had changed your life in any way? How have your attitudes, beliefs, values and behaviors been affected?

# Wild Hope

## Summary

3. What will you always remember about I Peter?



### **STETHOSCOPE - The Beating Heart**

1. Look back over the stethoscope sections in every study. Have you followed through on what God spoke to you about from each study?
2. Express it! As a summary of what you learned in I Peter find a way to express it. Here are some ideas: Draw a picture, write a song, write an open letter to a persecuted believer, write a story, make a web page, sing a song, do a skit with some others in your study, make a poster, write some poetry, write a prayer. Share your expression with your Bible study.

**I'm part of the fellowship  
of the unashamed.**

I have the Holy Spirit power.

The die has been cast.

I have stepped over the line.

The decision has been made—

I'm a disciple of his.

I won't look back,

let up, slow down,

back away or be still.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, my future is secure.

I'm finished and done with low living, sight walking, smooth knees,  
colorless dreams, tamed visions, worldly talking, cheap giving, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotion, plaudits or popularity.

I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded.

I now live by faith, lean in his presence, walk by patience,  
am uplifted by prayer, and I labor with power.

My face is set, my gait is fast,  
my goal is heaven, my road is narrow,  
my way rough, my companions are few,  
my Guide reliable, my mission clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised,  
detoured, lured away,  
turned back, deluded or delayed.  
I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice,  
hesitate in the presence of the enemy,  
pander at the pool of popularity,  
or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up,  
until I have stayed up, stored up,  
prayed up, paid up,  
preached up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus.  
I must go till he comes, give till I drop,  
preach till all know,  
and work till he stops me.  
And, when he comes for his own,  
he will have no problem  
recognizing me...  
my banner  
will be clear!"

*This is a note found in the office of a young pastor in Zimbabwe, Africa,  
following his martyrdom for his faith in Jesus Christ.*

*Taken from The Signature of Jesus, Brennan Manning, pages 29, 30*