

DEFENDING OUR FAITH

1 Peter 3:8 - 17

Devotional Reading: 2 Timothy 4:1 - 8

Background Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8 - 17

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- Identify the Old Testament text quoted
- Compare and contrast the things he or she “must do” with what he or she “must not do”
- State one “must do” and one “must not do” for personal focus in the week ahead

INTRODUCTION: Peter was a leader of Jesus’ disciples. The main focus of Peter’s two letters was to encourage the young church, that she remain faithful to the Lord and Savior. Peter reminds the Church of her role as the center of the community of faith. She is a chosen generation and a force for good. Peter encourages the Church to suffer for God’s will and His purpose. Today’s culture is an environment of “no-forgiveness.” Where is our example of Christ’s life in those situations?

KEY VERSE *17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.*
1 Peter 3:17 / KJV

LESSON:

Right Behavior

1 Peter 3:8 - 12

Confident Believers

verses 13 - 17

SUMMARY: When Peter implores for his readers to live Godly lives—including repaying evil with good—he knows this will require sacrifice, not only of physical things but also human desires. This will not be an easy task, but he assures us that we will be well-rewarded if we are faithful to the calling. Christians are encouraged to defend their faith through righteous and humble actions, even at the risk of suffering. When we follow God’s principles instead of the world’s, we will be blessed and considered righteous in His eyes. This is greater than any praise the world could offer us.

QUESTIONS:

1. *Why might Christians not experience God’s gift of unity?*
2. *In which situations is it most difficult not to respond to verbal assaults?*
3. *How do you remain ready to testify about the hope you have?*
4. *What is your main takeaway from this lesson?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
Mon., Mar. 11 th	Proclaim God’s Message	2 Timothy 4:1 - 8
Tue., Mar. 12 th	Let All the People Praise God	Psalm 67
Wed., Mar. 13 th	Proclaim What Jesus Has Done	Mark 5:1 - 2, 6 - 7, 11 - 20
Thurs., Mar. 14 th	A Powerful Defense of the Faith	Acts 9:10 - 22
Fri., Mar. 15 th	Come, Let Us Argue It Out	Isaiah 1:16 - 20
Sat., Mar. 16 th	Live Honorably Among Unbelievers	1 Peter 2:4 - 12
Sun., Mar. 17 th	Be Ready to Speak for Christ	1 Peter 3:8 - 17