

ON YOUR OWN

Answer these questions this week to reflect and go deeper.
TALK IT OVER with friends right now, using the
questions highlighted in **bold**.

- 1. If life gave you a "Nope" card, where would you play it?**
- 2. From today's message & Scripture, name your favorite difference between the way things are now and the way things will be when our salvation is "revealed on the last day."**
- 3. Identify a trial you're facing: how could it build your faith muscle rather than weakening it?**
4. Pray and ask the Lord to show you what you need to *know* and what you need to *do* in response to what you've heard and read this week. Write here what comes to mind. Share your answer with your group if appropriate.

IN YOUR GROUP

In your Cornerstone Community group this week, discuss your answers to the ON YOUR OWN questions. In a one-hour online group session, you might spend a 10-15 minutes catching up, 40 minutes talking through the discussion questions above, and 15-20 minutes praying for one another and planning ways the group can meet needs and serve others.

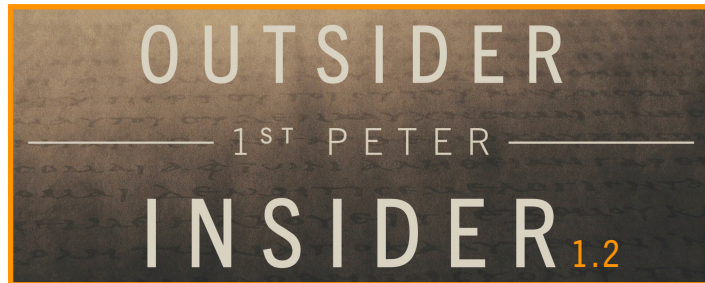
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CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mail: PO Box 1011, Concord, NH 03302-1011

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YOUR NAME: _____ 08/22/2021

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[CORNERSTONENH.ORG](https://www.cornerstonenh.org)

Growth Guide

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021

CONNECT AT CORNERSTONE

We want to encourage, inform, and connect with you!
Go to [CornerstoneNH.org](https://www.cornerstonenh.org) and click on the New Here? link. (You can also text NEW to 603-225-2550.)

LIFE. BETTER.

*FOLLOWING JESUS MAKES LIFE BETTER
AND MAKES YOU BETTER AT LIFE.*

TODAY'S MESSAGE PLAY THE NOPE CARD

TODAY: HOPE • 1 PETER 1:3-12

THE BOTTOM LINE

HOPE SAYS _____
TO _____

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, – 1 Peter 1:3 NLT/NASB

WE ARE OUTSIDER _____

...I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners... – 1 Peter 1:1 NLT

∴ ELECT ∴

We've been selected for service.

∴ SCATTERED ∴

This world is not our home.

∴ SCATTERED ∴

We're dispersed for a purpose.

David...served God's purpose in his own generation,
– Acts 13:36 NASB

PLAY THE NOPE CARD

_____ WHAT IS
_____ TO COME

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, – 1 Peter 1:3 NLT/NASB

Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.
– 1 Peter 1:3b-4 NLT

The promise of an inheritance began with the Jewish patriarchs and included earthly territory. Peter contrasts the better promise of a priceless inheritance that is ours in Christ: a secure heavenly inheritance rather than an earthly inheritance which could be and would be lost; a pure and undefiled inheritance rather than a land which had been defiled by bloodshed and idolatry; and an unchanging possession which could not lose its value.

And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. – 1 Peter 1:5 NLT

Not only is God protecting ("keeping") our inheritance safe, he is preserving his people so that they will be able to inherit it.

"Seen and unseen," and "now and later" are major themes in this passage. Our hope is largely in things that are now unseen but will later be revealed. What we see now are our trials, which may tempt us to despair but will end up adorning our faith when the end of the story unfolds.

SEE _____ AS A

_____ FOR YOUR FAITH

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. – 1 Peter 1:6 NLT

These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. – Hebrews 11:13b NLT

Think of the certificate printed on the bottom of some boxes: "Tested to XX PSI." This certifies that the box can take the load. Our trials prove the genuineness of our faith.

You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. – 1 Peter 1:8-9 NLT

Here Peter shows that they're already doing what he's encouraging them to do: putting their hope in an as-yet-unseen promise. Then he shows them that they themselves are the fulfillment of the at-that-time-unseen hopes of the ancient prophets.

And now this Good News has been announced to you by those who preached in the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven.
– 1 Peter 1:12b NLT

PUT ON YOUR

So roll up your sleeves, get your head in the game, be totally ready to receive the gift that's coming when Jesus arrives.
– 1 Peter 1:13 MSG

The phrase here is literally to gird the loins of your mind for action. The long tunics worn in that time would be lifted and wrapped up around the body to allow for greater movement in preparation for work or battle.

Saying "YES!" to Jesus? Text **YES** to **603-225-2550**

*Let us celebrate your decision
& resource you for your new life in Christ.*

THE CHALLENGE

**SEE HOW IT WORKS OUT TO _____ YOUR
TRIALS AS A _____**

So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.
– 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 MSG