

# Born Again to a Living Hope

## A Study of 1 Peter

Pastor Tim Allen

**Key Truth:** We praise God for giving us living hope according to his great mercy.

Christians are promised a greater hope than anyone or anything in our world can provide. In fact, we are promised a Living Hope, which cannot be tainted by sin or stolen by circumstances. This is a Hope that will last forever, and accompanies assurance and confidence in God's grace for an eternity of life, peace, and joy with God. Oftentimes, however, we struggle with assurance of salvation, and become discouraged by the various trials we experience. Peter declares that the "living hope" of salvation we experience is eternal, genuine, and saving, and that our trials only magnify the hope God gives us.

### **DISCUSS**

Read **1 Peter 1:3-9** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on being "**Born Again to a Living Hope.**"

### **DIG IN**

#### **1. An Eternal Hope**

(1 Peter 1:3-5)

Why do you think Peter would start by blessing God (v. 3) rather than pointing out how blessed we are? What does this teach us about reasons why we should praise God?

On what key gospel truth is our "living hope" based (v. 3)? Why is this important?

In what ways is our salvation guaranteed by God (vv. 4-5)?

Why is it important to be reminded that God guards *us* and not just our salvation (see v. 5)?

#### **2. A Genuine Hope.**

(1 Peter 1:6-7)

What kinds of trials were these "elect exiles" (v. 1) facing? What kinds of trials are we facing today, which test our faith?

**Read James 1:2-4:** What kinds of things do our trials produce?

**Read 1 John 3:2-3:** What effect does our hope have on our life with Christ today?

#### **3. A Saving Hope.**

(1 Peter 1:8-9)

According to verses 8-9, what kinds of things does our being "born again to a living hope" (v. 3) produce in our lives? Why is it important that these things also be tied to faith?

### **DO**

In what ways will you personally put what you have learned through this sermon into practice this week?