

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O u r n a l

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“The Summary of Submission”

1 Peter 3:8-9a

FEBRUARY 11 – FEBRUARY 17, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –This week we come back to our study in **1 Peter** and we are going to look at six specific qualities that Peter lists that we as Believers should be showing to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Peter starts out by saying, “*Finally*”. This word in Greek can mean “the last in succession or series” and we find that Peter is now summing up his thoughts (actually, God’s thoughts) on how Christians are to live in this world. After speaking about our responsibilities to civil authorities, employers, and family relationships, he here closes this thought by telling us how to live toward other believers. Read **1 Peter 3:8-9**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to teach you from His Word this week and to help you live out these characteristics toward other Christians.

MONDAY – Peter first tells “*all of you*” (us as Believers) to “*be of one mind*”. This is a command for all who know Jesus Christ as their Savior. The NASB says, “*be harmonious*” and the ESV reads, “*have unity of mind*”. Believers are called to live in harmony with one another and think the same; not necessarily having the same thoughts in regard to personal tastes and preferences but having our unity tied to common thinking and a unity in what we think of as valuable, important and essential. When we think and value things alike it is vital that the TRUTH of GOD’S WORD is the standard we follow. It is then we find there is harmony and inward unity of hearts as well. Read **Romans 12:16, Philippians 2:1-8**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Pray that God would help you to have a mindset that is like the mind of Christ, and to help you be in brotherly unity around His truth.

TUESDAY –The next thing we read is that we are to have “*compassion for one another.*” This is a further elaboration of what we saw yesterday.

Lord's Day	Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)
Sat							
Fri							
Thu							
Wed							
Tue							
Mon							

M a t t h e w 6: 9-13

True believers, who are in Christ and have the Word of God as their food for living and instructions for life, will also have Christ like feelings as well as thoughts. The word used here is *sumpathes* in the Greek. We get our English word “sympathy” from it. It means to have and share the same feeling. We are to be sympathetic to both the joy and sorrow of others and their needs. True sympathy is not found in saying, “I know how you feel”; rather it is lived out as a state of being with caring sensitivity and empathy. This sympathy should even extend to how we view those who are lost without Christ and the gospel. Read **Luke 19:41, 1 Corinthians 12:26, Hebrews 13:3.**

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you be sympathetic toward those who are your brothers as well as those who are lost and without Jesus as Savior.

WEDNESDAY –The third thing Peter addresses us to do in our text is to “*love as brothers*”. This phrase is translated with a single word that is recognizable to us. The word is *philadelphos*. It sounds very much like the word Philadelphia which we know as the city “of brotherly love”. Peter is telling us that we as Christians are to have affection as brothers. We are to demonstrate family love. We are not strangers, but we are family with God as “our Father”. As John Calvin said, “...for where God is known as a Father, there only brotherhood really exists.” True love of the brethren, family love is full of unselfish and sacrificial living. Read **Romans 14:19**, and see a biblical example of family love in **2 Corinthians 11:9** and **Philippians 4:14-16.**

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Pray that you (not your neighbor) but you would demonstrate unselfish, family love. Ask God for an opportunity this week.

THURSDAY –Our next command is stated as “*be tenderhearted*”. Besides meaning “being tenderhearted and compassionate” this Greek word also means “having strong bowels”. Since this root word often refers to the internal organs of a person and is even translated as “bowels” or “intestines” in other places it illustrates that this is a strong and powerful love and compassion that comes from deep within. We are not talking about some superficial emotion here; rather, this speaks of being deeply affected and compassionate towards others. This is precisely the kind of compassion Jesus Christ displayed toward lost sinners. Read **Ephesians 4:32, Matthew 23:37.**

What principles in these verses are applicable to my life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask to be more like Christ in displaying toward both your brothers and the unsaved a tender, compassionate heart.

FRIDAY –Next we find the command to “*be courteous*”. Depending on your translation of the Scripture this may be translated as “humble in spirit”, “a humble mind”, or simply just as “humble”. The Jamieson, Fausset, Brown commentary defines this as follows: “**courteous**–genuine Christian politeness; not the tinsel of the world’s politeness; stamped with *unfeigned love* on one side, and *humility* on the other. But the oldest manuscripts read, “humble-minded.” It is slightly different from “humble,” in that it marks a *conscious effort* to be truly *humble*.” We find all these commands to be somewhat related in that we can’t be proud and truly live out any of these. Real, true humility will regard others as more important than ourselves. Read **Matthew 11:29, Philippians 2:3, 8, James 4:6.**

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Pray for “humility and the fear of the Lord” which Solomon says is the way to “riches and honor and life”. (Proverbs 22:4)

SATURDAY –While the first five things we have looked at deal primarily with attitudes (internals) the next command is about action (externals). All the other traits are demonstrated with actions but this last command in particular is explained by Peter defining this Godly “Action” or maybe better said, “Reaction”. He says, “...*not returning evil for evil*...” We can only briefly touch upon this as Lord willing we will carry over into next week with this point. A short summary would be to say that as believers we are “*called*” (here and in **2:21**) to suffer mistreatment and insults and always respond to them with the traits previously outlined. We are to act like Christ Jesus in setting an example of loving others and blessing them even though they may not behave that way toward us. Read **Proverbs 20:22, 24:29, Matthew 5:38-45.**

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God for the necessary strength to act as Jesus did. Pray He would teach you from His Word and guide you by His Spirit to do so.