**FOCUS** in 2020

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**THRIVE –** *A Study of 1 Peter*

***Be a Blessing – 1 Peter 3:8-22***



You were **chosen**!

You were chosen to live your life on the **stage** of this world.

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9*

*I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. Isaiah 42:6-7*

You have been **exiled** into this world.

*Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles….*

*1 Peter 2:11*

Your **response** to this world will make all the difference.

*…knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers… 1 Peter 1:18a*

Attract more flies with **honey**.

*Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.*

*1 Peter 3:8*

You have been **blessed** to be a **blessing**.

*Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 1 Peter 3:9*

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16*

Your blessing **brings** blessings.

*For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.*

*1 Peter 3:10-12a*

*….but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect….  1 Peter 3:15*

Trigger Warning: This will have a **cost**!

*Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled…*

*1 Peter 3:13-14*

*having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.*

*1 Peter 3:16-18*

*“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.*

*Matthew 5:11*

**Why** would we ever put ourselves in this position?

David and the King of Gath

*For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.*

*1 Peter 3:18-22*

How to Be a Blessing:

1. Live like you are thriving.
2. Live uncommonly.
3. Give samples of love.
4. Always point people to Jesus.