



Sermon Growth Guide

February 7, 2021

Here We Go! - Deploy Generosity

1 Peter 3:1-9

Key Verse: 1 Peter 3:8-9 “Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.”

Big Idea: Value #6 Deploy Generosity: Invest who you are and what you have in what God wants to do.

Foundations

A generous giver in Scripture is one who gives more than expected, who gives out of a place of abundance, who understands that God supplies all that is needed.

A generous God makes us generous. Our passage today, that addresses wives and husbands directly, is undergirded by what Peter said just before the opening of chapter 3, “To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.” There is no better example of generosity than Christ at the cross, and we remember this generosity, our premier example for our own lives, as we celebrate the Lord’s Table today.

“We remember this week,” writes Pastor Jennifer, “that we are called to pour out our own lives for Christ, to give ourselves away generously and without reserve ... that our lives might bear witness to the amazing grace of Jesus.”

Gathered together with your circle, open your time of study in prayer. Ask the Spirit to guide and guard your spiritual formation, your growth in Christ.

Understanding God’s Word

In the back half of verse 1, what goal is stated for the wife to voluntarily submit (Greek, *hypotásso*, here, “to willingly arrange under for the sake of Christ”) to her husband?

Peter turns to husbands in verse 7 and defends his call for a husband to care for and respect his wife on the grounds that she is a co-heir to the glory of Christ, and so what in the husband’s life is not hindered?

Peter sums up his instruction to wives and husbands in verses 8 and 9. What catches your attention in this summation?

Applying God’s Word

Our sixth value challenges us to “invest who you are and what you have in what God wants to do.” Can you identify something you are investing in purely for your own sake? With your circle, discern how you can even more bring God’s will into your decision-making around your resources (time, finances, etc).

Witnessing God’s Word

To whom can you generously pour out your resources to this week that they might come to know and love Jesus? Pray with your circle that the lost around you would be found.