

Application

5. What is your response to suffering? Have you learned to glory in it? Or do you ask, “Why me?”

6. What difference does it make in your life to know that you know things that the great Old Testament prophets wondered about (verses 10-11) and even angels long to know (verse 12)?

A NEW OUTLOOK FOR A NEW LIFE

1 Peter 1:3-12

“The only thing you have control over is perspective. You don’t have control over your situation but you have a choice about how you view it.”

Chris Pine

It’s all a matter of perspective

Our big question from last week: When things start getting tough, Christians ask “Why me?”, “Why now?”, and “Where’s God?”

What’s really needed is a fresh outlook.

It’s a fresh outlook by looking down

God’s protection doesn’t give us everything, it gives us the right things. (Luke 9:25; Matt. 10:28)

Our salvation isn’t just an event, it’s a process.

It's a fresh outlook by looking up

The plan for surviving the storm when we can see clearly notes that while we may not ...

- We may not see but we love.
That results in sacrifice; we don't compromise.
- We may not see him, but we believe in him.
That results in purpose; we don't give in.
- We may not see him, but we rejoice.
That results in optimism, we don't despair.

It's a fresh outlook by zooming out

We get to see what others didn't

We're part of a bigger plan.

We play a bigger role.

We experience a fuller grace.

Getting to Know You

1. How many other countries have you visited or lived in? What is the longest time you have spent in one of them?

Into the Study

2. Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:20 to store up treasure in heaven. Peter, in verse 4, and Paul, in Ephesians 1:14, say that the treasures are already there and waiting for us. How can we reconcile these two ideas?
3. How would knowledge that they are shielded by God's power (verse 5) be a help to Christians who are facing severe persecution?