

# Joyful Life Bible Studies

## I PETER 3:1-7

Lesson 10

### FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review I Peter 2:18-25. Share a way you are applying these verses to your life.
2. God's wise and timeless message in I Peter 3:1-7, although primarily directed to married women, is valuable for all women. Through these verses we will discover the potential of a woman's influence both inside and outside the home. Read I Peter 3:1-7. Provide a brief title for this paragraph.
3. To prepare your mind and heart to receive all that the Lord has for you through your study, begin with prayer. Include in your prayer any specific needs or concerns you have in relationship to completing your lesson. Write your prayer here.

*Teach me, O LORD, the way of Thy statutes . . .  
Make me to go in the path of Thy commandments;  
for therein do I delight.  
Psalm 119:33a,35*

**SECOND DAY:** Read I Peter 3:1,2

1. A Christian wife has an incredible opportunity to influence the life of her husband. Consider this as you read I Peter 3:1,2. What do you learn about this from these verses?
  - a. Notice the word *Likewise* in verse 1a. What do you think this word refers to?
  - b. Observe I Peter 3:1,2 NIV: *Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the Word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.* Why is this kind of behavior from a wife so powerful?
2. God has designed an order for the marriage relationship. Use Ephesians 5:22-24 to explain the I Peter 3:1a instruction: *wives, be in subjection to your own husbands.*
  - a. Record what I Corinthians 11:3 reveals about God's order.
  - b. This does not mean women are inferior to men. Neither does it mean that single women are inferior to those who are married. How do the following verses confirm this:
    - (1.) Galatians 3:28
    - (2.) I Corinthians 7:32-34
  - c. Read Genesis 2:18. What does this say to you about the role of a wife?
3. Think about the importance of *purity and reverent behavior* (I Peter 3:2b Phillips) to our witness as Christian women. What affect should this have on us today?

**THIRD DAY:** Read I Peter 3:3,4

1. The instructions of I Peter 3:3,4 are directed to wives but are applicable for all women. We will take two days of our lesson to concentrate on these valuable verses. Here Peter contrasts *external* and *internal* adornment. Write what verses 3,4a say about our *adorning*:

a. *let it not be*

b. *but let it be*

c. What do these verses suggest to you about a woman's appearance?

2. Consider one reason the *adorning of the heart* is more important than the outer *adorning* by filling in the blanks from I Peter 3:4b:

*that which is \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Our internal *adorning* is *not corruptible*. It is beyond the reach of time and decay. What message is there in this for us today?

3. In response to the instruction of I Peter 3:3,4b how can we as Christian women resist the world's excessive preoccupation with *outward* appearance?

a. List a few practical ways we can improve our *inward* beauty.

*Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me;  
all His wonderful passion and purity.  
O Thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine,  
'til the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.*  
-selected 🎵

**FOURTH DAY:** Read I Peter 3:3,4

1. Look once again at I Peter 3:3,4 concentrating on verse 4c. Discover what is *in the sight of God of great price* by writing verse 4c here.
  - a. Define the following words:
    - (1.) *meek*
    - (2.) *quiet*
  - b. What is the opposite of *a meek and quiet spirit*?
  - c. Recall from I Peter 2:22,23 Jesus' example of *a meek and quiet spirit*. How does having *a meek and quiet spirit* affect our reactions and relationships?
2. *A meek and quiet spirit* does not mean a Christian woman should not be productive and active. How does the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31:10-31 exemplify this?
  - a. What especially speaks to you from her example?
3. Take a moment to think about the value the Lord places on the I Peter 3:4 attitudes and behavior as you consider the following: *which is very precious in the sight of God.* verse 4c NKJV How should this motivate us to follow the instructions of I Peter 3:3,4?
  - a. What does it require of us to develop that which is *very precious* in the sight of God?

*True beauty is in the heart,  
not in the outward appearance.*  
Pastor Chuck

**FIFTH DAY:** Read I Peter 3:5-7

1. We will benefit from the examples given to us in I Peter 3:5,6. Identify these from the following:
  - a. verse 5a
  - b. verse 6a
  
2. Describe the *holy women* from I Peter 3:5b.
  - a. Focus on the phrase: *who trusted in God*. Why is this essential?
  
3. I Peter 3:6 tells us Sara called Abraham *lord* which revealed her honor and respect for her husband. How is she an example for a Christian wife?


Advanced students: Research the meaning of the phrase: *and are not afraid with any amazement*.  
I Peter 3:6c Record your findings.

4. Read I Peter 3:7. Although the instruction in this verse is directed to *husbands*, it contains insights about women. The phrase *weaker vessel* refers to a woman's weaker *physical strength*. Think about the following description of a Christian husband and wife: *being heirs together of the grace of life*. How does this minister to you?
  - a. Notice the serious implications of the last phrase of verse 7. How is prayer affected by conflict between marriage partners?

*Submission is voluntarily cooperating  
with someone else out of love and reverence  
for God and love and respect  
for that person.  
-selected*

**SIXTH DAY:** Review I Peter 3:1-7

1. Whether you are married or single, what part of this week's study was most significant to you?
  - a. Why?
  
2. With I Peter 3:1-4 in mind write a brief comment concerning the following phrases:
  - a. *wives, be in subjection to your own husbands*
  
  - b. *chaste conversation* (behavior)
  
  - c. *internal adorning*
  
  - d. *meek and quiet spirit*
  
3. A Christian wife is to honor and respect her husband. What hinders her from doing this?
  - a. What would help her to do this?
  
4. Note what you discovered through your lesson this week about the influence a woman's attitude, behavior and appearance can have on her witness inside and outside her home.

*Over every thought, over every word,  
may my life reflect the beauty of our Lord  
'cause You mean more to me than any earthly thing.  
So won't You reign in me again.  
-selected *