

Think about the area of your life where you feel most at the mercy of a fallen world. How can you commit yourself to God in that area and struggle?

How will you continue to do good in the midst of suffering and struggle?

*Thank God today for the example of Jesus. Talk to Him about your struggles with the fallen world we live in. Pray for faith to trust Jesus' example. Specifically commit your area of suffering and struggle to God. Ask Him to fill you with desire and opportunity to continue to do good.*

## Saturday

Please read 1 Peter 3:15–22 in preparation for this weekend's sermon.

*Thank God today for the Bible and the opportunity to study it. Ask God to use you to reflect His love and care to those around you. Please pray for the services this weekend that we would grow closer to God and each other. Pray that TLC will continue to grow and be more effective in our reaching our community with the Good News of God's love and grace.*



**TWIN LAKES**  
CHURCH  
www.tlc.org

# LIVING HOPE

PART 6

## ...in Times of Tragedy

JULY 28 & 29, 2012 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER  
1 PETER 3:8-14

### Two most frequently asked questions after tragedy:

#### 1. Why did this happen?

##### Resources:

"Questions About Evil and Suffering" by Paul Spurlock

April 15, 2012 at [www.tlc.org/sermons/1227](http://www.tlc.org/sermons/1227)

"The Reason for God" by Tim Keller at TLC book cart in lobby

#### 2. What am I supposed to do now?

##### Common reactions to tragedy:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### How do I respond with hope when the world seems hopeless?

#### 1. Stick \_\_\_\_\_

Live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. *1 Peter 3:8*

#### 2. Speak \_\_\_\_\_

**Do not repay** evil with evil or **insult with insult**, but with **blessing**, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must **keep his tongue from evil** and his lips from deceitful speech. *1 Peter 3:9–10*

over

### 3. Seek \_\_\_\_\_

... **turn from evil** and **do good**. . . **seek peace and pursue it**. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? *1 Peter 3:11–13*

### 4. Stop \_\_\_\_\_

But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. **“Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.”** *1 Peter 3:14*

### 5. Stay \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the **same attitude**. . . *1 Peter 4:1*

#### What was the attitude of Christ?

He **entrusted himself** to him who **judges justly**. *1 Peter 1:23b*

So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should **commit themselves to their faithful Creator** and continue to do good. *1 Peter 4:19*

#### Bottom line:

\_\_\_\_\_ **yourself to God.**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **to do good.**

## Daily Meditations

### Monday

Please read 1 Peter 3:9–4:1. What is your typical reaction to tragedy? What did you learn last weekend about responding like Jesus?

Reread 1 Peter 3:8. How do you think living in harmony with others could help you have hope when the world feels hopeless?

Think of someone you’re struggling to live in harmony with. What is one step you’ll take this week to move towards harmony with that person?

*Thank God today that there is always hope in Him even when things look hopeless. Talk to Him about your struggles to living in harmony with others. Ask Him to give you the courage and desire to move towards harmony this week.*

### Tuesday

Please read 1 Peter 3:9–10. When do you most struggle with speaking positively? Why is that?

What standard of speech do these verses call you to?

Please read Ephesians 1:3–11 & 1 Peter 2:9. What has God said of you in these verses?

How could focusing on speaking positively about God and others give you hope?

*Thank God today that He has spoken positively of you. Ask Him to remind you to speak positively and give you the strength to change your patterns. Pray that your speech will bring hope and blessing to others.*

### Wednesday

Please read 1 Peter 3:11–13. What scares you about pursuing peace?

Please read Philippians 4:6–8. What do these verses teach you about peace?

Write down at least two ways you can apply these passages and pursue peace in your life and relationships.

*Thank God today that He is the provider of the “peace that passes all understanding.” Talk to Him about the areas of your life and relationships that lack peace. Ask God to fill you with His peace and give you the desire and faith to live in peace.*

### Thursday

Please read Isaiah 8:11–13 & 1 Peter 3:14. What is happening the world around you right now that causes you to fear?

Being told by God “not to fear” may not seem helpful but think through what you know about God. Write down three truths about God’s power and love.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Now think about how these three things should impact your fears. How could focusing on the truth of God impact your fears?

*Thank God today for the three truths about Him you wrote down. Thank God for His amazing love for you. Pray that as you grow in Him your fears will recede.*

### Friday

Please read 1 Peter 1:23 & 4:1,19.

What is Jesus’ example when it comes to facing a fallen world?

over 



Memory Verse

Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech?” *1 Peter 3:9–10*