

## Sermon Discussion Questions: 1 Peter 1:3-4

January 20, 2019

1. What in the sermon encouraged you, comforted you, challenged you, or informed you?
2. According to 1 Peter 1:3, the beginning of the Christian life is a new birth. How does the family we are born in affect our outlook in life and our life direction? How might this new birth by God the father shape our outlook and life direction?
3. Often we can arrive at a place where we believe we deserve certain benefits and blessings in the Christian life. Peter says that this new birth is according to God's mercy. Why do we believe God's blessing is an act of mercy?
4. What various ways does Peter describe our future hope in 1 Peter 1:3-4 and how does this give us great assurance when it seems like the world around us is falling apart? How is the resurrection of Jesus Christ not only a picture of this future hope but also the means by which it is guaranteed?
5. Peter says that we all look forward to and long for a future hope that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading. C.S. Lewis draws out this inner longing in His argument by desire for the existence of God. How might we talk with non-Christians about hope that points to this inner longing?  
"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for these desires exists. A baby feels hunger; well there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim; well, there is such a thing as water. Men have sexual desire; well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probably explanation is that I was made for another world."  
C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Chapter 10 Hope