



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

Introduction:

- We've been studying the book of 1 Peter.
 - And we've seen how Peter encourages Christians to live for Christ in a broken world.
- And last week, we learned how to rightly honor those in authority.
 - Because Jesus Christ is our supreme authority.
 - We saw how we can use our freedom, not for ourselves, but to serve those in authority.
 - So we might shine the light of Jesus Christ.
- As we continue in our series.
 - And consider how we can share the hope.
 - We need to ask an important question.
- What can we do about the person who has no interest in Jesus Christ?
 - What can we do about the child who's walked away?
 - The parent who doesn't believe?
 - The friend who's been hurt by the church?
 - The spouse who's heard the gospel, but still doesn't believe?



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Have you ever wondered what more you can do for people you love, but still refuse to trust in Christ?
 - Do you keep talking?
 - Do you stop talking?
 - Do you push harder?
 - Do you just wait?
 - How can we share the hope of Christ when people resist the gospel?

- Well, in 1 Peter chapter 3, Peter helps us answer this very question.
 - And he shows how God can use our lives.
 - How God can use our prayers.
 - And how God can use our words to reach those who have no interest in Jesus Christ.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

Point 1:

- First, we see from our passage how God can use our conduct to win resistant people to Jesus Christ.
- Take a look at chapter 3 verse 1.
 - **“Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct.”** 1 Peter 3:1-2
- In this passage, Peter is describing a difficult situation.
 - He’s speaking to women who came to know Christ.
 - But were married to husbands who didn’t share their faith.
 - And so, these ladies wondering what they could do?
- And here, the Bible teaches them to live godly lives, so that God might use their conduct to win their husbands to Jesus Christ.
 - In other words, Peter doesn’t tell them to try and force their husbands to change.
 - But rather to subject themselves.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Now, what does it look like for a wife to subject to her husband?
 - We see the answer right here in this verse.
 - Peter says their conduct needs to be respectful and pure.
 - That's how wives are called to subject themselves.
- And I want to be clear.
 - This doesn't mean tolerating sinful behavior.
 - It doesn't mean becoming a passive person.
 - It doesn't mean remaining in a dangerous situation.
 - It doesn't mean your husband makes every decision.
- Healthy couples will take time to listen to one another and make decisions together.
- But Peter says a Christian wife should seek to treat her husband with respect.
 - It means you lift your husband up and not tear him down.
 - It means you don't embarrass him in front of your children or in front of others.
 - It means you're not harsh with your words.
 - But rather, you seek to encourage.
 - It means he knows you're on his side.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- And so, if I could encourage all the wives.
 - Could you encourage your husband this week?
 - Let him know you're cheering for him.
 - Let him know what you appreciate about him.
 - Furthermore, not only respect, but wives are also called to act with conduct that is pure.
 - This means you act with love.
 - It means you live a godly life.
 - It means you don't hold on to resentment.
 - But you learn to forgive.
 - It means you don't force your husband to change.
 - But you trust the Lord.
 - Because you know only God can change the heart.
 - During Peter's day, a wife was expected to follow her husband's religion.
 - And when a wife became a Christian, it could create tension, even embarrassment for her husband.
 - But instead of bringing shame.
 - The Bible tells wives to treat their husbands with love and godliness to win them over to Christ.
 - That's why he writes:
 - **"So that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives."**
- 1 Peter 3:1



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- I want to be clear.
 - No one comes to faith in Jesus Christ without hearing the gospel.
 - People need to hear the truth.
- But when you treat others with respect.
 - When you honor others.
 - When you act with godliness.
 - God can prepare others to hear his word.
 - Our conduct can't replace the gospel.
 - But God can use our conduct to prepare someone to hear the gospel.
- And this principle isn't just for wives.
 - To some extent, it's for all of us.
 - In fact, isn't this exactly what the Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians chapter 9?
 - He writes:
 - **“For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.” 1**
 - Corinthians 9:19
 - The Apostle Paul was willing to lay down his preferences.
 - He was willing to become a servant of all.
 - Why?
 - Because he wanted to win more people to Jesus Christ.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Imagine if we could record your life for an entire week.
 - What would people see?
 - Would they see forgiveness or bitterness?
 - Would they see patience or irritation?
 - Would they see humility or pride?
 - Would they see conduct that draws others to Christ?
- No one is perfect.
 - We all make mistakes.
 - We're all going to fail.
- But when we seek to serve others.
 - When we seek to display godly character.
 - When we lay down our lives.
 - God can use our conduct to win others to Christ.
- Around 360 AD, the Roman Emperor Julian wrote a letter to one of his pagan priests.
 - He was frustrated that Christianity was continuing to grow.
 - He was frustrated that Christians were caring for others.
 - He wrote how the Christians:
 - Cared for strangers.
 - Cared for the graves of the dead.
 - How they cared for Christians in need as well as pagans.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Julian even commanded his priests to follow their example.
- An emperor who opposed Christian, saw the beauty of Christian conduct.
- And that's what Peter is saying here.
 - He's saying our conduct needs to show the hope of Christ.
- And so, we need to ask:
 - How can we develop this kind of conduct?
 - What can we do to show this kind of hope?
 - Peter shows us right here in verses 3 and 4.
 - He says:
 - **“Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.”**
1 Peter 3:3-4
- This doesn't mean you can't wear makeup or buy nice clothing.
 - Or buy a purse from Hermès or Chanel.
 - It doesn't mean we shouldn't take care of our outer appearance.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Rather, he's saying we shouldn't spend our whole life developing the outside, while neglecting the inside.
 - It means we need to seek godly character over external beauty.
 - Because here's the truth.
 - True beauty comes from the heart and not the store.
- And it's when we grow in godliness in our hearts, that we might win more people to Jesus Christ.
- I shared this story exactly two years ago.
 - But let me share it again.
- In 2006, Will Guidara took over as General Manager of Eleven Madison Park.
 - He wanted to make it the number one restaurant in the world.
 - And after taking over, he began to perfect everything they did.
 - The food.
 - The service.
 - The lighting.
 - The decor.
 - Even the way they folded the napkins.
 - The external adorning was perfect.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Finally, he was invited to an event that would name the top 50 restaurants in the world.
 - And after all that work, they were named the 50th best restaurant.
- He was perplexed.
 - What more could he do?
- One night he overheard some guests saying how they ate at all the best restaurants in New York, but they never got to eat a New York style hot dog.
 - So, he ran outside.
 - Bought a two-dollar hot dog.
 - And served it nicely before dessert.
 - He said to the guests:
 - “I overheard you guys saying you weren’t able to eat this, so I got it for you.”
 - And he said their reaction was incredible.
 - More than all the nice food, they loved this hotdog.
 - From then on, he challenged his staff to listen to people and find over the top ways to care for them.
 - And in 2017, Eleven Madison Park was named the number one restaurant in the world.
- Now, we’re not trying to become the number one church in the world.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- But if this restaurant could draw people with their conduct.
- Shouldn't we be able to draw more people with the love of Jesus Christ?
- We may not have the best-dressed pastors at our church.
 - Our website may not be the easiest to navigate.
 - Our social media might not have a million followers.
 - Our parking lot sewer system might take a long time to drain when it rains.
 - But when we seek to serve, and love, and care.
 - And we take on the heart of a servant.
 - God can use our conduct to soften resistant hearts.
 - And lead people to faith in him.

Point 2:

- Second, we see from our passage how God can use our prayers to win more to him.
- As you think about those who are far from Christ.
 - You may feel powerless to change their heart.
- But what's impossible with man, is possible with God.
 - And one of the best ways we can help others come to Christ is by praying for those we love.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- And that's what 1 Peter 3, verses 7 to 12 is all about.
 - Peter is explaining how we need to cultivate a lifestyle of prayer.
- Take a look at verse 7.
 - He says:
 - **“Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way...”**
 - Why?
 - Look at the end of verse 7.
 - **“So that your prayers may not be hindered.”**
- Then take a look at verse 8.
 - **“Finally, all of you have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, a humble mind.”**
 - Why?
 - Look at verse 12.
 - **“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”**



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Listen to what one Bible teacher writes regarding 1 Peter chapter 3.
 - “Keeping the channel of prayer open is the central theme in this section of Peter’s letter...If we are to fulfill our God-given purpose, we need to be able to pray effectively...” (Smith, 65, 10 Keys)
- But there’s also a great warning in this passage as well.
 - Peter reminds us that our prayers can become hindered.
 - It’s scary to think about.
 - But its possible God may not hear our prayers.
 - He says:
 - **“Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way...”**
 - **“So that your prayers may not be hindered.”**
- We also see this warning throughout the Bible as well.
- David writes in Psalm 66 verse 18:
 - **“If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.”**
- Or listen to what God says in Jeremiah chapter 11 verse 11:
 - **“Though they cry to me, I will not listen to them.”**
- This doesn’t mean we need to be perfect to pray.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- If that were true.
 - No one would be able to pray.
 - Because no one is perfect.
- But when we have unrepentant sin in our hearts.
 - When we seek to live however we want.
 - We can't expect God to answer our prayer.
- King Saul is a perfect example of this.
 - God told Saul what he needed to do.
 - But Saul kept refusing to obey God's word.
 - He was resentful against David.
 - He kept trying to kill David.
 - And because of this.
 - The Lord stopped answering his prayer.
 - Listen to 1 Samuel 28 verse 6.
 - **“And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him...”**
 - Saul wanted God to listen to him, when Saul spent years ignoring God's word.
- And so, we need to ask ourselves.
 - Could it be that we're asking God to listen to us, when we've been refusing to listen to him?



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- And so, what can we do, so that our prayers won't be hindered?
 - Peter tells us right here in this passage.
 - He shows how we need to examine the relationships in our lives.
 - Because when we harbor bitterness in our heart, it can hinder our prayers.
- That's why Peter tells husbands to live with their wives in an understanding way.
 - That means we need to know our wives.
 - We need to know their fears, know their needs, know their sorrow, know their joy.
 - It means we need to take time to talk with our wives.
 - To have deep conversations.
 - And to cultivate deeper love.
- The Bible also commands husbands to honor their wives.
 - That means we need to treat them with respect.
 - We need to protect their reputation.
 - We need to bless and praise.
 - We need to be gentle and kind.
 - We need to raise them up.
- Why?
 - So that our prayers may not be hindered.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Not only to husbands, but in verses 8 to 12, Peter expands this principle to all believers.
 - Now, there's a lot that Peter says in verses 8 to 12.
 - But I think verse 11 is a perfect summary of what Peter is saying in chapter 3.
 - He writes:
 - **“Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.”**
 - He's calling us to pursue peace with everyone around us.
 - This means we need to seek peace as far as it depends on us.
 - This means we need to forgive.
 - It means we need to show compassion.
 - And hold our tongue.
 - It means we don't repay evil for evil, but we seek to bless.
- If you have tension with your wife.
 - If you're not understanding her.
 - And honoring her.
 - It'll be very difficult for you to pray.
 - And your prayers for your children, and family members, and friends won't be effective.
- And so, husbands, I want to encourage you, seek to reconcile with your wife.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Jesus didn't wait for us to come to him.
- But he first came to us.
- And so, let's be the first to reach out to our wives.
- Let's be the first to apologize when we've done wrong.
- Let's be the first to open our hearts.
- Isn't that what Jesus did for us?
- Or if you're refusing to forgive someone in your life.
 - If there's bitterness and anger.
 - I plead with you to let it go.
 - Seek and pursue peace as far as it depends on you.
- Listen to what Pastor Colin Smith writes regarding this:
 - "When God sees me acting in a way that is unkind toward the people he has placed next to me, he presses the mute button on my prayers. That means that it would be possible to spend an hour in prayer, or even go on a day retreat and achieve absolutely nothing of lasting spiritual value." (Smith, 65, 10 Keys)
- But the wonderful promise we see in this verse is that when we pursue peace.
 - When we seek to be righteous.
 - When we repent of our sins.
 - God opens his ears to our prayers.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- And so, let's continue to pray for our children.
 - Let's continue to pray for our spouse and our parents.
 - Let's continue to pray for our friends.
 - Because God can use our prayers to soften those who resist his truth.

Point 3:

- How can God use us to point people to Christ?
 - He can use our conduct.
 - He can use our prayers.
 - And third, we see from our passage how God can use our words.
- In verse 15 we see what can happen when we live with hope.
 - When we subject ourselves to others.
 - When we show respect and honor.
 - When we pursue peace and love.
 - When we pray effectively for others.
 - People may become open to hearing about the hope we have in Christ.
- And when that time comes.
 - He says we need to be ready to give a reason for the hope we have.
 - Take a look at verse 15.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- **“In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you...”**
- When people ask why you have hope in Christ.
- We need to be ready to share
- We need to share that Jesus died for them and offers them grace.
- That anyone who turns to him can be forgiven and find salvation.
- That Jesus rose and is one day going to return.
- And as you share about the hope you have.
 - God may use your words to bring people to faith in him.
- 1 Peter 3 verses 18 to 22 are difficult verses to understand.
 - And I don't have time to explain everything these verses are teaching.
- But let me point out one encouragement from verse 22.
 - It says that Jesus Christ is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers being subjected to him.
 - Colossians 2 verses 14 and 15 says it like this.
 - **“This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them...”**
 - Through the cross, Jesus Christ has won.



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- Through the cross, Jesus has defeated and disarmed the spiritual forces of darkness trying to keep people from him.
- I know there's a lot of darkness and evil in this world.
 - But darkness can't stop us from building the church.
 - It can't stop people from coming to Jesus Christ.
 - And so, let's keep inviting.
 - Let's keep speaking.
 - Let's keep telling people about the hope we have.
 - Because Christ has risen.
 - Because our victorious King reigns supreme.

Conclusion:

- Listen to this story about how one young woman came to Christ.
 - "Susan had a long, slow journey to my church. She had been abused when she was younger and entered a marriage because she became pregnant. In her marriage she experienced physical abuse for several years, began to drink and then take drugs, and tried to take her life. In the hospital she connected (with a small group leader) visiting someone in his small group who shared a room with Susan. The (leader) was accepting and encouraging and told her he would love to see her find faith...After



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

getting out of the hospital, she met a guy who invited her to...my church. As she began to attend, she cried every week for several months in response to the message of hope she heard and the acceptance she felt. She became part of a small group and then began to serve...Slowly, she began to feel better about herself, and she eventually came to faith. Within a couple of years, she had invited many other friends, was leading a small group, and had married the man who had initially invited her. Her life was turned upside down, and her kids were being loved and brought up in faith.” (You Found Me, 72, Richardson)

- Do you see how Susan came to faith?
 - This young lady was drawn by the conduct of the people in this church.
 - I’m sure many people were praying for her.
 - And she heard the word of hope.
 - And because that, this woman who happened to be in this hospital came to know Christ Jesus.

- Let me ask you again, is there someone in your life who’s been resisting the truth?
 - A child?
 - A spouse?
 - A parent?
 - A friend?



THE ORCHARD

Be Ready to Bless

1 Peter 3:1-22

Pastor Tom Yoon

August 16, 2026

- We can't change their heart.
 - But let's live in a way that shows the gospel of Christ.
 - Let's continue to pray that God would change their heart.
 - And if God were to ever open the door, let's be ready to speak about the hope we have.
- How can God use us to help resistant people come to him?
 - He can use our conduct.
 - He can use our prayers.
 - And he can use our words.
- If you're here today.
 - And you've never trusted in Christ.
 - I want to invite you to trust in him.
 - Jesus died for you.
 - And because of that, your sins are forgiven.
 - And you can have new life in him.